Interair

South Africa

No.32 September/October Septembre/Octobre 2003

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THE IN-FLIGHT MAGAZINE OF
LE MAGAZINE DE LA COMPAGNIE

Interair South Africa

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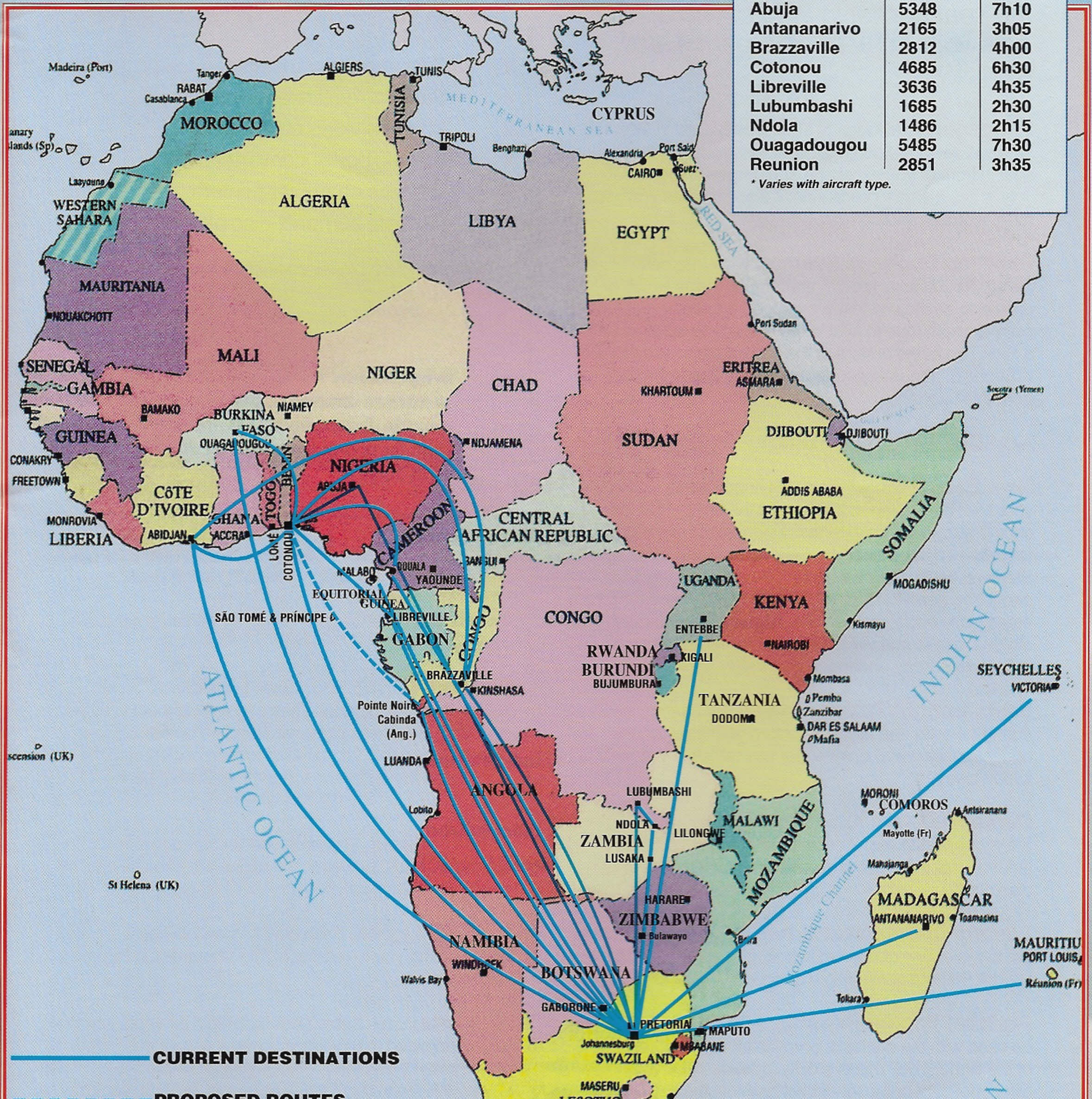
South Africa

ROUTE MAP

NON STOP SECTOR	DISTANCE IN KILOMETRES	AVERAGE JOURNEY TIME*
Cotonou to		
Abuja	663	0h50
Brazzaville	1873	2h40
Libreville	1038	1h25
Ouagadougou	800	1h00
Johannesburg to		
Abuja	5348	7h10
Antananarivo	2165	3h05
Brazzaville	2812	4h00
Cotonou	4685	6h30
Libreville	3636	4h35
Lubumbashi	1685	2h30
Ndola	1486	2h15
Ouagadougou	5485	7h30
Reunion	2851	3h35

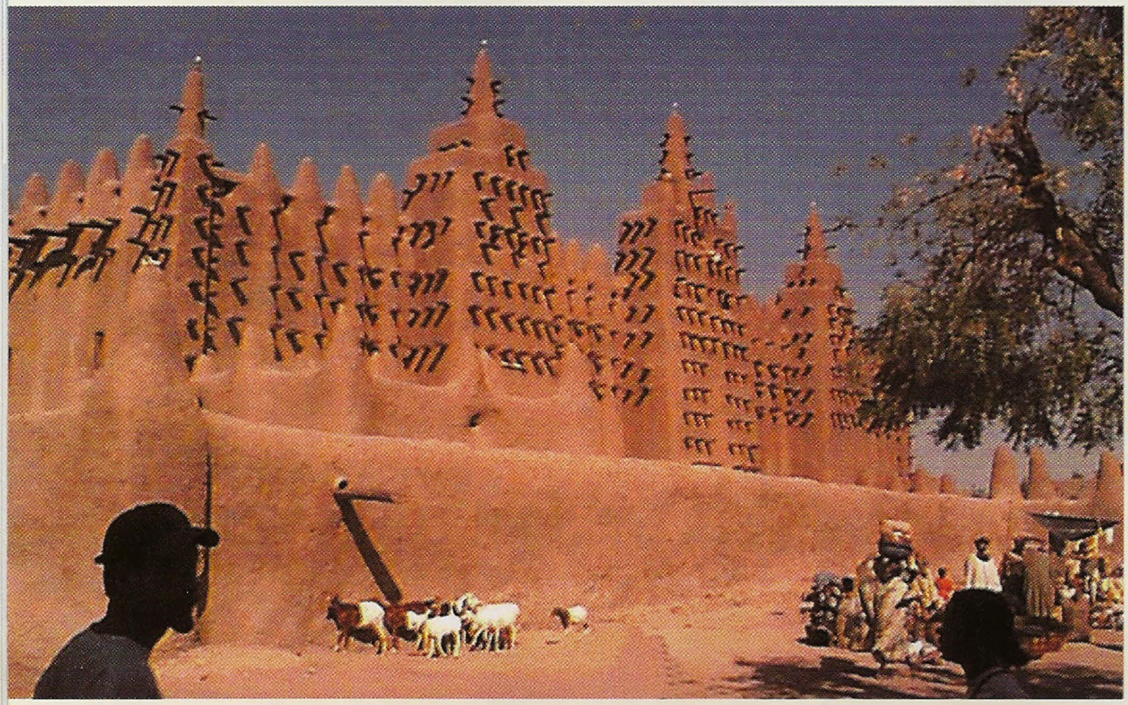
** Varies with aircraft type.*


Madeira (Port)
Tanger
RABAT
Casablanca
ALGIERS
TUNIS
TUNISIA
MEDITERRANEAN SEA
CYPRUS
Canary Islands (Sp)
MOROCCO
TRIPOLI
Benghazi
Alexandria
Port Said
CAIRO
Suez
Laayoune
WESTERN SAHARA
ALGERIA
LIBYA
EGYPT
RED SEA
MAURITANIA
NOUAKCHOTT
MALI
NIGER
CHAD
SUDAN
Port Sudan
ERITREA
ASMARA
KHARTOUM
Socotra (Yemen)
SENEGAL
GAMBIA
BAMAKO
BURKINA FASO
NIAMEY
OUAGADOUGOU
GUINEA
CONAKRY
FREETOWN
NDJAMENA
DJIBOUTI
DJIBOUTI
NIGERIA
ABUJA
ADDIS ABABA
ETHIOPIA
CÔTE D'IVOIRE
GHANA
TOGO
BENIN
MONROVIA
LIBERIA
ABIDJAN
ACCRA
LOMÉ
COTONOU
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
CAMEROON
SOMALIA
BANGUI
MALABO
DOUALA
YAOUNDE
MOGADISHU
EQUITORIAL GUINEA
SÃO TOMÉ & PRÍNCIPE
LIBREVILLE
GABON
CONGO
CONGO
UGANDA
KENYA
ENTEBBE
NAIROBI
Kismayu
RWANDA
BURUNDI
BUJUMBURA
KIGALI
BRAZZAVILLE
KINSHASA
Mombasa
Pemba
Zanzibar
DAR ES SALAAM
Mafia
TANZANIA
DODOMA
SEYCHELLES
VICTORIA
INDIAN OCEAN
ATLANTIC OCEAN
Pointe Noire
Cabinda (Ang.)
Ascension (UK)
LUANDA
ANGOLA
LUBUMBASHI
Lobito
NDOLA
ZAMBIA
LUSAKA
LILONGWE
MALAWI
MOZAMBIQUE
MORONI
COMOROS
Antsiranana
Mayotte (Fr)
Mahajanga
Mozambique Channel
St Helena (UK)
HARARE
ZIMBABWE
Bulawayo
Beira
MADAGASCAR
ANTANANARIVO
Toamasina
NAMIBIA
WINDHOEK
BOTSWANA
Walvis Bay
MAURITIUS
PORT LOUIS
Réunion (Fr)
Tokara
GABORONE
PRETORIA
Johannesburg
MAPUTO
SWAZILAND
MBABANE
MASERU
LESOTHO
Durban
SOUTH AFRICA
CAPE TOWN
East London
Port Elizabeth
INDIAN OCEAN
CURRENT DESTINATIONS
PROPOSED ROUTES

Map courtesy of Africa Institute

Mali...the ancient land of the Mandinka.

An African travel feature by Dan Boylan.



this mysterious and mythical land, lay at the cross roads of several trans-Saharan and African trade routes

In a quiet, landlocked corner of north Africa lies a vast, sprawling land of semi desert and fertile flood-plain. Once the centre of a immense, powerful kingdom, this mysterious and mythical land, lay at the cross roads of several trans-Saharan and African trade routes, where powerful monarchs once created fabulous empires and ruled half the continent.

The Republic of Mali stretches 1,500kms across in any direction and shares its borders with seven other nations. It is a vast land of stubby mountain, desert and flat, simmering plains, fed and watered by two; major rivers, the Senegal on its western edge and the great River Niger. On its journey north the Niger converges with the River Bani, and forms a rich inland delta, the marshlands of the Macina, stretching for some 450km along the river's length and in some places, 200klms wide.

The northern sector is sub-Saharan desert where Tuaregs still wander the scattered oases along the ancient camel routes.

The central part is grazing land, called the Sahel, semi-desert which suffers from frequent drought, and is peopled by nomadic herdsmen. At Timbuktu the Niger reaches the desert and turns east, then southeast at Bourem, where it flows on to the ocean.

In the south east & west, lie mountain ranges which rise to over 800m and through which, the swirling Niger flows and irrigates the surrounding plains. The majority of the population live in the savannah region in the south and are Songhai, Malinke, Senoufou, Dogon and the Bambara, who are the largest ethnic group. The main rural industries and occupations are agriculture, pastoral grazing and river-fishing

This vast landlocked nation lacks the major mineral wealth and oil reserves of many of its southern neighbours and its modest trade and export is hampered by a 1,000km journey to the nearest deep sea port. Thus, the country has been left undisturbed by generations of colonialists, prospectors and merchants and remains financially, one of the poorest countries in Africa.

But, modern-day tourists, drawn to its unspoilt landscapes, legendary cities and a gentle timelessness, will discover a land, and people, from a different age, steeped in history, legend and intrigue.

IT WASN'T ALWAYS 'THE LAND WHICH TIME FORGOT'.

A thousand years ago, before the colonialist drew lines on maps to create borders, and thus countries, Mali (or Mandinka) was a vast, powerful kingdom. During the 7th-15th centuries, it stretched across 2,000kms of the Atlantic shore and deep inland to the centre of the continent. Great walled cities housed wealthy trading centres, colourful markets and advanced centres of learning. Powerful Emperors sat on golden thrones in splendid palaces and governed the masses with great authority and influence, whilst their treasuries overflowed with gold, silver and ivory.

The centre of the Empire was strategically located around the gold mines and the agriculturally rich flood-plain of the central Niger River region. Until the mid-11th century this region was under the domination of the Ghana Empire and as Ghana declined, several short-lived kingdoms vied for influence over the area. In 1235 the small state of Kangaba,

under Sundiata Keita, defeated the nearby kingdom of Soso at the Battle of Kirina. Sundiata and his immediate successors created the Mali Empire which stretched west to the Atlantic Ocean, south to the gold fields of Bondu and Bambuk; east beyond the Niger River, and north to the salt and copper mines of the Sahara. The city of Niani was the onetime capital. At the height of its glory, Mali was a union of 3 independent states (Mali, Mema, and Wagadou) and 12 garrisoned provinces. The king enjoyed the right to dispense justice and to monopolize trade, particularly gold.

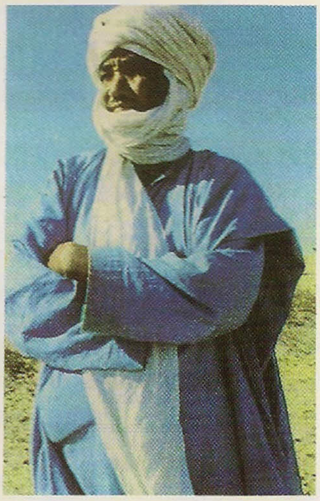
Mali's renown spread to the Islamic and European worlds when ruler Mansa Musa, made a spectacular pilgrimage to the Islamic holy city of Mecca in the years 1324 and 1325, taking large quantities of gold and slaves. During his reign the trading centres such as Jenne and Timbuktu thrived under the influence of Islam, which penetrated the elaborate life of the court. In the following decades, however, political intrigue and various succession disputes weakened the empire and by the early 14th century, the northern regions had begun to rebel. The Songhai were one of the first peoples to gain independence, and during the 15th century much of Mali fell to the Songhai Empire.

What remains of the empire is reflected in the cultural similarities between the Mande peoples, particularly between those who speak Malinke, Bambara, and Soninke and whose descendants still occupy great stretches of West Africa.

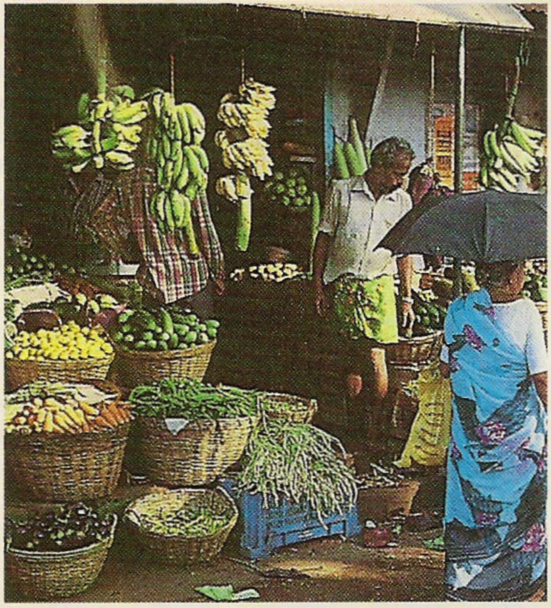
The national capital, since 1908 is Bamako, a modern, bustling town, which straddles both banks of the Niger. A one time French Ville, it retains an Afro-French flair of wide tree lined boulevards, pavement cafes and bistros. The state assembly, main political and legislative buildings are here, as are major commerce, educational and cultural centres. The main places of interest are the numerous, colourful, open air markets, the National Museum, Botanical Gardens, the zoo and the craft centre at the Maison des Artisans. It is a major terminus for air, rail, river and road passengers and with a population exceeding 1 million, is a heaving, pulsating metropolis. French is spoken almost everywhere.

400kms north-east lies the ancient city of Djenné 'the 'Jewel of the Niger', founded in 1250. Its Grande Mosquée, is a superb example of 12th century architecture and the town is one of the oldest trading towns along the trans-Saharan caravan routes. Old Djenné is 5km from Djenné and was reputedly established in 250BC. The town quickly developed into a trading and market centre, and for generations has been an important link in the gold, salt and slave trade. During the 15th century, it became one of the main spiritual centres for the promotion of Islam. Over 2,000 of its traditional houses, built on surrounding hillocks to avoid seasonal flooding have survived through the years. The town is protected by UNESCO as a World Heritage site.

The centre of Mali's tourist industry is Mopti, the African Venice, built on three islands joined by dykes and located in the Macina marshes at the confluence of the Bani and Niger rivers. The market in the town square Le Marché des



Mali



Souvenirs, is a popular attraction and the town, port and its surrounding area are worth visiting

Southeast of Mopti is the Bandiagara country, peopled by the ancient Dogons, whose ancient pagan beliefs have remained largely unaffected by Islam. The Cliffs of Bandiagara are also listed as a World Heritage site by UNESCO. The Dogon people are believed to have been the original inhabitants of the Niger river valley and, for thousands of years, lived in villages cut into the cliffs of the 200-km long Bandiagara escarpment. Although most the Dogons have now relocated to the plains, the ancient villages on the cliffs are still standing and are a fascinating site.

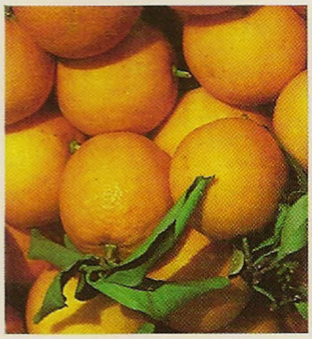
It is generally believed that the Tellem people carved the cliff dwellings in the Bandiagara Escarpment before the 14th century. They also created numerous burial sites in the escarpment's caves. The Dogons came to the escarpment in the 14th century to escape from the Muslims, and after their arrival, the Tellems disappeared forever and their whereabouts remains a mystery.

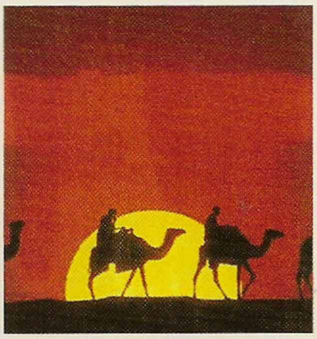
Across the river lies the legendary and ancient Timbuktu, whose name, in English, has come to mean inaccessibility or some imaginary place beyond the horizon. It is neither and is a splendid and ancient town of mud walls, mosques, minarets and winding back alleys, full of mystery and intrigue. It also boasts a fine market where the magnificent camel caravans, some of them comprising over 3,000 camels and pack-mules, arrive every year carrying salt from the Taoudenni salt mines to trade through the Sahel. By the 15th century, Timbuktu, sitting at the junction of various trans-Saharan caravan routes, had developed into the centre of the profitable salt and gold trade and also a great centre of Islamic learning. The city fell into a period of decay 200 years ago, but it is the site of many beautiful mosques and tombs, some dating back to the 14th century.

Another ancient city which had its heyday in the 15th century is Gao which houses the mosque of Kankan Moussa and the tombs of the Askia Dynasty. There are two excellent markets and a thriving port and the city has recently undergone much urban redevelopment. Nearby, the huge, National Park of La Boucle de Baoule contains a varied desert species of wildlife, including elephant, buffalo and hippo, giraffe, leopard and lion.

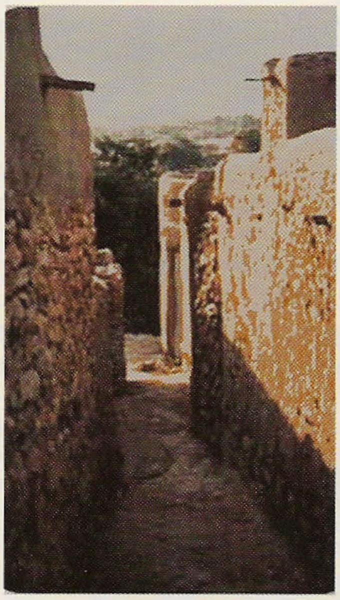
As travel and tourism increases, perhaps the most novel and adventurous way of seeing the country's diverse landscapes, between Bamako and Timbuku, is from the deck of a Niger river ferry boat. From August-January, when the river is in full flood, various vessels provide 1st class, air conditioned cabins, with stewards, personal deck seats and a full restaurant service. The 4 day journey, with its numerous portages and landings, allows visitors to see the Africa of yesterday and to watch the wild-life on the river banks. There is ample time for a lingering lunch, afternoon tea and a chilled sundowner, on deck before dinner!

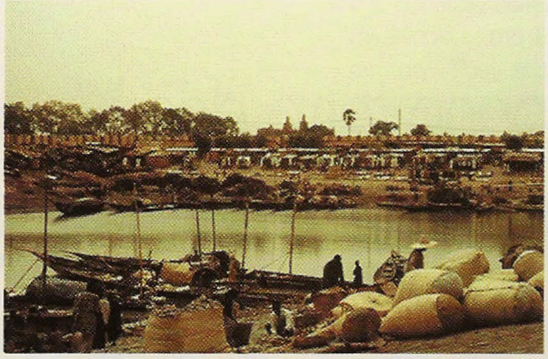
This is a vast, timeless land, far off the beaten track and slowly emerging from a long sleep. Tourism is in its infancy and comforts, soft beds and luxuries are still in short supply. But for those prepared to tolerate the hardships, here awaits fabulous vistas, ancient cities, lost tribes, forgotten empires............ and the journey of a lifetime.





Mali





influence, tandis que leurs trésoreries débordaient d'or, d'argent et d'ivoire.

Le centre de l'empire était situé stratégiquement autour des mines d'or et de la riche plaine inondée agricole de la région centrale de la rivière Niger. Jusqu'au milieu du 11ème siècle cette région était sous la domination de l'empire du Ghana et comme le Ghana dépérissait, plusieurs royaumes de courte durée rivalisaient pour l'influence de la zone. En 1235 le petit état de Kangaba, sous Sundiata Keita, vainquit le royaume voisin de Soso à la Bataille de Kirina. Sundiata et ses successeurs directs créèrent l'empire du Mali qui s'étendait à l'ouest vers l'océan atlantique, au sud jusqu'aux terrains aurifères de Bondu et Bambuk ; à l'est au delà de la rivière Niger, et au nord aux mines de sel et de cuivre du Sahara. La ville de Niani était l'ancienne capitale. A l'apogée de sa gloire, le Mali était une union de 3 états indépendants (Mali, Mema et Ouagadougou) et de 12 provinces de garnison. Le roi jouissait du droit d'administrer la justice et de monopoliser le commerce, surtout l'or.

La progression du Mali dans le monde islamique et européen est bien connue, lorsque le souverain Mansa Musa fit un pèlerinage spectaculaire à la ville sainte, la Mecque, pendant les années 1324 et 1325, prenant des grandes quantités d'or et d'esclaves. Au cours de son règne les centres commerciaux tel que Jenne et Tombouctou prospéraient sous l'influence de l'Islam, qui pénétra la vie raffinée de la cour. Toutefois, au cours des décennies qui suivirent, l'intrigue politique et les diverses disputes de succession affaiblirent l'empire et au début du 14ème siècle, les régions du nord commencèrent à se révolter. Les Songhais étaient parmi les premiers à obtenir l'indépendance et au cours du 15ème siècle, une bonne partie du Mali fut prise par l'empire Songhai.

Ce qui reste de l'empire est reflété dans les similarités culturelles entre le peuple Mande, surtout entre ceux qui parlent le Malinke, Bambara et Soninke et dont les descendants occupent encore des grandes étendues d'Afrique de l'Ouest.

La capitale nationale depuis 1908 est Bamako, une ville moderne, pleine d'animation, qui est à cheval sur les deux bords du Niger. Une ancienne ville française, elle garde un flair franco-africain de larges boulevards bordés d'arbres, de cafés et de bistros. L'assemblé étatique, les principaux bâtiments politiques et législatifs se trouvent ici, comme le sont les centres principaux de commerce, d'éducation et de culture. Les endroits d'intérêts les plus importants sont les nombreux vifs marchés en plein air, le Musé national, les jardins botaniques, le jardin zoologique et le centre d'artisanat de la Maison des Artisans. C'est un terminus important pour les passagers d'avion, de train, de rivière ou routiers et avec une population dépassant 1 million, une métropole haletante, palpitante. Le français est parlé partout.

400 km au nord-est se trouve l'ancienne ville de Djenné « le bijou du Niger », fondée en 1250. Sa grand Mosquée est un superbe exemple de l'architecture du 12ème siècle et la ville est un des plus anciens centres commerciaux le long des routes de caravanes trans-sahariennes. Le vieux Djenneé est à 5 km de Djenné et fut d'après ce qu'on dit, créé en 250 av. J.C. La ville se développa rapidement en un centre de commerce et d'affaires, et pendant des générations a été un lien important dans le commerce de
l'or, du sel et des esclaves. Au cours du 15ème siècle, elle devint un des premiers centres spirituels pour le développement de l'Islam. Plus de 2,000 de ses maisons traditionnelles, construites sur les collines environnantes afin d'éviter les inondations saisonnières, ont survécu à travers les années. La ville est protégée par UNESCO en tant que site de Patrimoine mondial.

Mopti est le centre de l'industrie touristique du Mali, le Venise africain, construit sur trois îles jointes par des digues et situé sur les marais de Macina à la confluence des rivières Bani et Niger. Le marché dans la grand-place de la ville, le Marché des Souvenirs, est une attraction populaire et la ville, le port et ses environs valent une visite.

Au sud-est de Mopti se trouve le pays Bandiagara, où les habitants sont des anciens Dogons dont les anciennes croyances païennes sont restées fort inaltérables par l'Islam. Les falaises de Bandiagara figurent également dans le site du Patrimoine mondiale de l'UNESCO. Il est dit que les Dogons sont les premiers habitants de la vallée de la rivière Niger et, pendant des milliers d'années, vivaient dans les villages creusés dans les falaises de 200 km de long de

l'escarpement de Bandiagara. Bien que la plupart des Dogons se sont installés maintenant dans les plaines, les anciens villages sur les falaises existent toujours et sont un spectacle fascinant.
On croit en général que le peuple Tellem a ciselé les habitations des falaises dans l'escarpement de Bandiagara avant le 14ème siècle. Ils créèrent également de nombreux sites d'enterrement dans les grottes de l'escarpement. Les Dogons sont arrivés dans l'escarpement au 14ème siècle pour fuir les Musulmans, et après leur arrivée, les Tellems disparurent pour toujours, et où ils pourraient se trouver reste un mystère.

De l'autre côté de la rivière se trouve le légendaire et ancien Tombouctou, dont le nom en anglais signifie l'inaccessibilité ou quelque endroit imaginaire au-delà de l'horizon. Ce n'est ni l'un ni l'autre et c'est une splendide ancienne ville de murs de terre, de mosquées, de minarets et de petites ruelles sinueuses, pleine de mystère et d'intrigue. Elle est également fière de posséder un beau marché où des magnifiques caravanes de chameaux, dont quelques-unes comprennent 3,000 chameaux et mulets de charge, arrivent chaque année portant du sel des mines de Taoudenni pour faire du commerce à travers le Sahel. Au 15ème siècle, Tombouctou, qui se trouvait au carrefour de diverses routes de caravanes trans-sahariennes, s'était développée en un centre rentable de commerce de sel et d'or et aussi un grand centre d'études islamiques. La ville tomba en déclin il y a 200 ans, mais c'est le site de plusieurs belles mosquées et tombeaux, quelques uns datant du 14ème siècle.

Une autre ancienne ville qui a connu l'apogée de sa gloire au 15ème siècle est Gao, dans laquelle se trouve la mosquée de Kankan Moussa et les tombes de la dynastie Askia. Il y a deux excellents marchés et un port prospère, et la ville a récemment subi un grand redéveloppement urbain. Tout près de là, dans l'énorme parc de la Boucle de Baoule se trouve une variété d'espèces de faune et flore, y compris des éléphants, des buffles et des hippopotames, des girafes, des léopards et des lions.

Comme les voyages et le tourisme augmentent, peut-être la façon la plus originale et aventureuse pour voir les divers paysages du pays entre Bamako and Tombouctou, serait du pont d'un ferry-boat sur la rivière Niger. D'août à janvier, lorsque la rivière est en pleine crue, divers vaisseaux fournissent des cabines de 1ère classe, climatisées, avec des stewards, des sièges personnels sur le pont et un service restaurant complet. Le voyage de 4 jours, avec ses nombreux portages et amerrissages, permet aux visiteurs de voir l'Afrique d'autrefois et d'observer la faune et flore sur les rives de la rivière. Il y a largement le temps pour de longs déjeuners, thés d'après-midi, et des boissons fraîches prises au coucher du soleil sur le pont avant le dîner.

C'est une terre vaste et éternelle, hors des sentiers battus, qui se réveille lentement d'un long sommeil. Le tourisme est dans son enfance et il manque les conforts, les lits doux et les grands luxes. Mais pour ceux qui sont disposés à supporter les privations, ici les attendent des vues fabuleuses, des anciennes villes, des tribus perdues, des empires oubliés et un voyage unique dans la vie.

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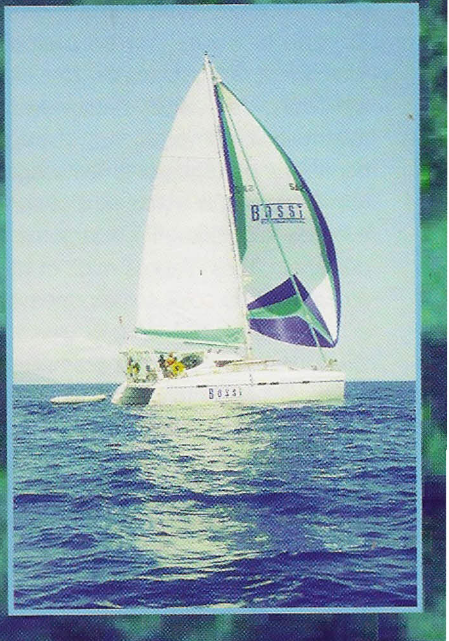

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GEMSTONES

Some alternate views on gemstones
by a Hindu Priest & Astrologer from Thailand

EMERALD

The finest colour of emeralds, are compared to the following elements in nature: the green colour on the neck of a parrot; the colour of a flower called in Sanskrit, Shirisha; a blade of green grass, the colour of fresh moss; the green found in a peacock's feather; the green on the back of a fire-fly. Anyone possessing fine quality emerald of any of these shades of green is blessed with great good fortune.

Ancient Indian gemologists have given the highest praise to emerald possessing the following qualities: display a rich, even colour; emit a soft glow, appear to glisten with gold dust inside; devoid of any serious internal or external blemishes, the gem also should be properly cut so that maximum light is refracted to the eye of one viewing it face up.

The emerald of superlative quality shines like green lightening and brings joy at first sight. Of second quality is one coloured grass green, flawless, but with lighter tone and appearing transparent in the centre (windowed). Dark coloured emeralds showing little glow or fire should be considered inferior to those before mentioned.

Emeralds considered inauspicious are blackish, devoid of lustre, appearing inside or dried and brittle. Anyone concerned with their own well being should never purchase or wear any oiled, dyed, or treated emerald. Also, emeralds of mixed colours are strictly forbidden.

Emeralds, which are too light green, are not considered true emeralds, but are called green beryl.

Emerald substitutes can be detected by differences in specific gravity and refractive index. Simply by sight and touch experienced gemologists can discern these differences.

Emeralds should be mounted in yellow gold, and worn, both by the doctor and patient, during treatment of any disease, especially those caused by poison or an imbalance of the body's vital airs.

Top quality emeralds are deemed more valuable than a ruby of quality, while low quality emeralds are less valuable than rubies.

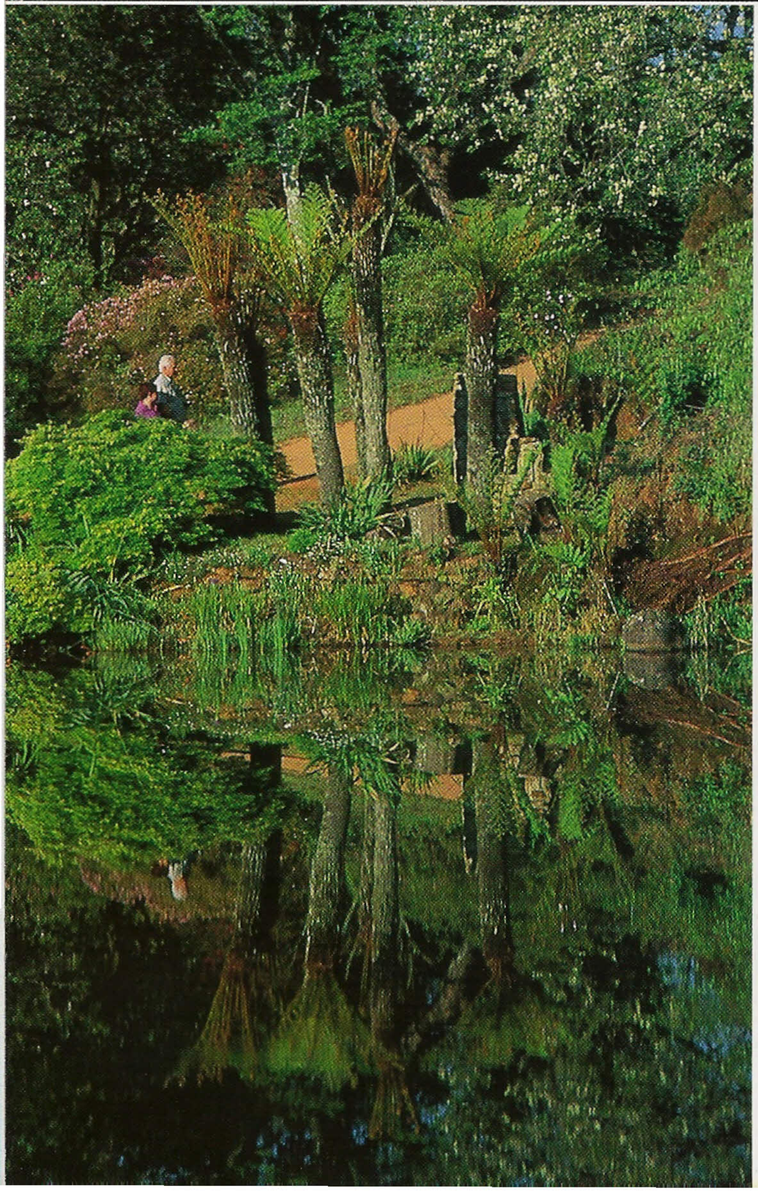
BLUE SAPPHIRE

The finest colour of blue sapphire is compared to the blue mountain flowers, which grow wild in Sri Lanka. These flowers are so sweet that they attract hoards of bumblebees and parrots eager to drink their nectar. Blue sapphires of fine, evenly distributed colour, free from flaws and cut to proper proportions for brilliancy are the most valuable. When blue sapphires have a green or violet tint, are slightly grayish or darkish-blue, or are coloured light blue like the sky, they are of medium value.

Blue sapphire that are excessively dark, light, or uneven in colour, possessing a pronounced grayish tone, internal inclusions, visible black spots or internal feathers, are of low quality. Sapphires lacking brilliance due to poor proportions are also less valuable.

Both ruby and blue sapphire, are of the same mineral species, with only the colouring agent differing. Therefore the same methods of identification established for ruby also apply to blue sapphire. Blue sapphires should never be subjected to burning for improving their colour and clarity, as misfortune will certainly befall anyone doing so. Blue glass lapis lazuli, blue spinel and other gems occasionally look like blue sapphires, but are easily detected by testing for hardness, specific gravity, and brightness.

The most rare and valuable of all blue sapphires is the maha-nila, which, when immersed in 100 times its own weight of milk, can tinge the milk blue. Astrologically, line blue sapphires are as powerful as excellent rubies, but monetarily they are valued at one-quarter the price of a ruby of equal quality.



HAENERTSBURG
ANNUAL SPRING FESTIVAL

(one of the world's best-kept secrets)

By Magoebaskloof Tourist Association
Photography Mike Strever

Nestling under the towering gaze of the Iron Crown massif and the magnificent Wolkberg Mountains, often caressed by swirling silver mist, the village of Haenertsburg is considered by many to be the Northern Province's answer to rival tourist attractions like Pilgrim's Rest and Dullstroom.

This quiet and quaint little gem has a surprising diversity of things to do and see. Abundant trout fishing, horse-riding, hiking, mountain biking, rare archaeological sites, disused mines, magnificent montane grassland, indigenous forests, waterfalls and the beautiful Ebenezer Dam are some of the many tourist attractions. Visitors to the Mountain, as the area is affectionately termed by the locals, are offered a wide range of accommodation types - from cosy B&B chalets, log cabins and self-catering cottages to comfortable country hotels and lodges as well as delightful tea gardens and friendly restaurants and pubs catering for all tastes.

The annual Haenertsburg Spring Festival has become an extremely popular event - attracting people from far and wide and this year will be held from September 13th to 23rd.

One of the main attractions is the Cherry Blossom and Azalea festival at the famous Cheerio Gardens. Created over a lifetime and containing a multitude of flowers, shrubs and trees from around the world this is an absolute "must" to visit. The whole valley is breathtakingly beautiful with all the different blossoms bursting into exquisite banks of colour as far as the eye can see. Visitors can wander at will along mossy petal strewn pathways, over tinkling streams and enchanted forests or enjoy a quiet tea or lunch break at their tea garden set next to a trout (also known to enjoy the delectable chocolate cake) filled farm dam.

Synonymous with the Cherry Blossom and Azalea Festival is the Spring Fair, held at the Magoebaskloof Hotel. This year promises to be even bigger and better than ever with a fine selection of hand crafts including needlework, pottery, paintings, woodwork, clothing, woven baskets and much, much more. Once you have taken in all the beautiful handcrafts, one can relax on the patio of Magoebaskloof Hotel and take in the magnificent beauty of the natural surroundings whilst enjoying one of their great teas or lunches.

The Wolkberg Orchid Society will once again be exhibiting at Magoebaskloof Hotel from the 19th to the 24th of September - it is really worth the time to see the most beautiful prize winning orchids and there will also be an incredible selection of orchids on sale to the public.

There will be two concerts by the Johannesburg Welsh Male Voice Choir, the Annual Forestry Competition and a whole lot more to .do and see in this spectacularly beautiful area - don't miss out!

For further information and accommodation bookings, contact Lizzie Blandy
Magoebaskloof Tourist Association
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Web: www.magoebaskloof.com

QUEEN MUMMY. FOR REAL?

JUST DAYS after British archaeologists announced on June 9 they may have identified the body of one of the most legendary beauties of the ancient world, a group of Egyptologists start casting doubt. Skeptics stressed on 11 June the X- ray analysis of the mummy found in Egypt's Valley of the Kings in Luxor, the ancient royal burial ground for pharaohs, shows the body is of a 16-year-old girl. Not of Nefertiti, believed to have died in her 30s. Even Dr. Zahi Hawass, secretary general of Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities, could not authenticate the find. He said, "Any similarity between the mummy's face and Nefertiti's statue isn't worthy evidence because during the period when the queen lived "art was idealistic and not realistic. This is not good evidence at all, this is just a theory." DNA testing is being planned to substantiate the findings. Meanwhile, the British remain confident the tattered mummy found in a secret side chamber in a tomb known as KV35, (which housed two other mummies) is Queen Nefertiti's, stepmother of the boy king Tutankhamun and one of the most powerful women in ancient Egypt. The conclusion has been made after 12 years of research, using clues such as fragments of a wig and the piercing of the mummy's ears. The breakthrough came after the Egyptian authorities allowed the 3.500- year-old body to be examined in detail for the first time. Under a pile of ancient linen, archaeologists found a broken-off arm bent in a way that was permitted only if the dead person was a pharaoh or queen. Joanne Fletcher, a key member of the research team from York University said:" It's a royal woman of the late 18th dynasty who wielded tremendous power. There are not many who fit that description. We can never have cast-iron certainty that it is Nefertiti but we have narrowed it right down." The mummy was originally found with two others by a French team in 1898. It was walled up in a side chamber of the tomb of King Amenhotep II. The body's poor condition meant it drew little attention. It was photographed only once, in 1907, before the chamber was walled up again. Since the 1920s the mummy's beautiful face makes it one of the best-known images of Ancient Egypt. It shows a woman with a long neck, high cheekbones and a slender nose. The bust was found at Amarna, where Nefertiti's husband, the Pharaoh Akhenaten, had his capital in the 14th century BC. But after his death, he was branded a heretic and anything connected with his reign was destroyed. The name Nefertiti means a beautiful woman has come. Queen Nefertiti was the Great Royal Wife. Her life was a unique adventure that touched the heights and depths of human destiny. She lived both in unspeakable wealth and in the bitterest loneliness. She was beloved to the point of idolatry, but also was unfathomably hated. Her parentage is unknown, and she has been said by some to be a Mittanian princess. This is unlikely because she had a sister, Mutnodjme, who was Egyptian and the future wife of the Pharaoh Horemhob. Amenhotep IV probably married Nefertiti while he was co-regent with his father Amenhopte III. Shortly after his father's death, Amenhotep IV changed his name to Akhenaten (Servant of the Aten), embraced monotheism and worshipped the God Aten, banned all other Gods and closed their temples. "Nefertiti is the big name. She is such a phenomenally important Egyptian figure and she is an icon because of that bust in Berlin," said Fletcher whose work for the Discovery Channel gets aired on 17 August, Sunday at 9 pm Eastern. Meanwhile in Germany, the Berlin Museum Director Dietrich Weldong fixed the head of Queen Nefertiti statue on a bronze-made naked woman; an action that provoked Egyptian archaeologists and artists. "The bronze-made statue would hurt the head of Nefertiti," said Zahi Hawas, Supreme Council of Antiquities Secretary General. "The installation of Queen Nefertiti statue's head on a naked woman body could not be accepted by any archaeologist," he added. Hawas said he briefed Culture Minister Farouq Hosni on this issue, contacts would be held with UNESCO director general and German Ambassador in Cairo to restore this priceless and rare monument to its normal display. For several years now, Egyptian authorities have been actively pursuing the return of artifacts that had been smuggled out of the country. The culture minister vowed to recover all the antiquities that had been illegally removed from Egypt since 1972. More on the West Bank's Valley of the Kings: Nestled at the tip of a remote wadi in the Theban Hills is the royal necropolis or the burial site of the Pharaohs who reigned from the 18th to 20th dynasties. Twenty-two in total, the most prominent of the kings' tombs are that of Kings Tutankhamen, Ramses II and VI, Amen-Ofis II, Horemheb, Seti II and Tut-Mosis III. The tombs speak of grandeur particularly the one of young Tut's. All picturesque symbols interpret the importance placed on the hereafter. Most if not all of the burial grounds are adorned with colourful scrolls of kings' names in hieroglyphics, fresco images of the wigged sovereign Osiris, Hathor depicted with horns and solar disks, Horus with the double crown which represents Upper and Lower Egypt and pictures of Anubis or Horus flanking the dead kings majestically garbed in full Pharaonic regalia with the final resting place -the sand- stone sarcophagus. The recent rediscovery of the most-talked about, most-written about archaeological find by American Egyptologist Kent Weeks is startling audiences world over. KV5, the largest tomb ever found in the Kings' cemetery is the greatest discovery in the Valley since King Tutanhamen.

LIVERPOOL NAMED EUROPEAN CAPITAL OF CULTURE

LIVERPOOL was named as the European capital of culture for 2008, beating a hotly tipped joint bid from Newcastle and Gateshead. The other bids defeated by the Merseyside city were from Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff and Oxford. The news, announced today by the culture secretary, Tessa Jowell, was greeted by scenes of jubilation in the winning city and disappointment in the runner-up cities. Antony Freud, general director of the Cardiff-based Welsh National Opera said, "while we must acknowledge our disappointment that Cardiff was not the overall winner, we are delighted that we will be involved in Liverpool's celebrations in 2008. The UK as a whole will benefit enormously from the creative attractions which Liverpool will be offering as part of the 2008 celebrations, and [we] will be proud to be a part of it." Jowell said the competition to choose the city had been "fantastic" and all the bids had been of the highest standard. Liverpool, which will now hope to reap the benefits and the image change Glasgow enjoyed when it won the title in 1990, reacted with delight to the nomination

As the decision was announced live on TV, fireworks and streamers erupted at the Empire Theatre, where Liverpool's bid team had gathered to hear the announcement. After wild cheering and applause, Sir Bob Scott, who led the Liverpool bid, said: "For the first time for too long, Liverpool will represent Great Britain and we will be the voice of Great Britain in 2008, when hopefully Liverpool will be the greatest capital of culture that has ever been seen." Councilor Mike Storey, leader of Liverpool city council, said: "This is like Liverpool winning the Champions League, Everton winning the double and the Beatles reforming all on the same day - and Steve Spielberg coming to the city to make a Hollywood blockbuster about it. "This decision means so much to the city. It gives us the opportunity to bring real change for the better. "This is a day for the people of Liverpool to celebrate. We are all winners today." Louise Ellman, the Labor MP for Liverpool Riverside, said: "This is a magnificent boost for Liverpool but it is also a challenge. We must use this opportunity to make the arts the centre of our regeneration as a top class European city." EU member states take turns to nominate a city to hold the title. An expert panel chaired by former Royal Opera House chief Sir Jeremy Isaacs weighed up the rival merits of the shortlist of six. After making the announcement in London, Jowell and Sir Jeremy were traveling to the winning city bearing a letter from Tony Blair confirming the nomination.

Liverpool, which will celebrate its 800th birthday a year before the cultural jamboree, has a rich artistic heritage which takes

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in everything from the Beatles to the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra. It is well- endowed with museums and galleries, many built during its heyday as one of the main ports of the British empire. But economic decline during the 20th century has left it in need of the kind of boost cultural capital status may bring. The news of Liverpool's victory was greeted with shock in the north-east, where civic leaders had gathered at a small primary school in the Newcastle suburb of Walker. In Cardiff, Wales's culture minister, Alun Pugh, expressed disappointment but congratulated Liverpool on its success.

Jowell told a news conference in central London: "It has been a fantastic competition and all the bids by the cities have been of the highest standard. "Any city could be the nomination for the capital of culture in 2008." Sir Jeremy said the decision had been "very, very tough". "Taken overall Liverpool looked good, sounded good, feels good to be in and would deliver a really terrific year," he told the news conference. "If one had to say one thing that swung it for Liverpool it would have to be there was a greater sense there that the whole city is involved in the bid and behind the bid." Jowell said the other short listed cities should feel proud of their achievements and added that the government would work with them to try to ensure that some of the developments highlighted in their bids were still realized. "Yes, there will be government support, yes, there will be a small amount of money to help these cities to work together to kick-start some of the developments they hope to see," she said, adding that a further announcement would be made in July. She said: "Liverpool is a worthy winner of this honor. Their vision, passion and enthusiasm - coupled with a really spectacular year-long program - impressed the judges, who chose them from a very strong field." Jowell said the city's name would now go forward to the EU, which would formally respond next year.

STARS TO THE RESCUE

LEAVE it to popular stars to stir things up and create a buzz for afflicted destinations. As was the case this week with Israel whose travel and tourism saw a bit of ray of light after months and months of negative press resulting from popular singer Whitney Houston's visit. Amid security issues, Houston is reportedly in Israel to record with polygamous religious sect Dimona. Houston's husband Bobby Brown told Tourism Minister Benny Elon that she had decided to make a Christmas special in Israel for the US network HBO in late 2003, a statement said. "It is a pleasure and an honor to be in Israel. Thank you for your special attention," Houston wrote in a letter presented to the minister. "I hope to see you soon." The couple on Tuesday met with Israeli Prime Minster Sharon at his Jerusalem residence, and Brown later met with Elon at the King David Hotel. At the meeting, the minister presented Brown with a replica of a third century silver dinar and a certificate of appreciation for being a "goodwill ambassador for Israel." A similar certificate was also made out for Houston.

Houston is joined by countless other stars lending their hand to the good cause of travel and tourism. Earlier this week, Canada made known its intention to jumpstart tourism recovery through a series of concert events featuring well-known acts such as Avril Levigne, Sarah Maclachlan, Shania Twain, Neil Young, and other Canadian pop stars. Canada was back on the World Health Organization's SARS-affected list earlier this week following 27 deaths among more than 150 cases - the biggest SARS outbreak outside Asia. Toronto had been removed May 14 from the WHO list of SARS-affected areas after more than 20 days passed without a new case being reported. The new cluster is believed to come from an elderly patient whose case dates from April 19.

In other parts of the globe, stars supporting particular destinations or causes have been turning up in the news as well. Hong Kong this week announced its enthusiasm to sign up a host of celebrities including former US president Bill Clinton and Latin pop sensation Ricky Martin to spearhead a one billion dollar campaign in its recovery from the SARS outbreak. Hong Kong's economy has been devastated by the SARS outbreak and subsequent WHO travel advisory announced on April 2. The travel and tourism industries have been decimated while the retail, restaurant and entertainment sectors have also been badly hit by the outbreak which has seen unemployment soar back to a record high of 7.8 percent. Ricky Martin was also in Rome for a benefit concert for Iraqi refugees hosted by tenor Luciano Pavarotti on Tuesday night called "Pavarotti and friends," an annual charity show. Alongside Martin were rock and pop stars Bono, Eric Clapton and Italian tenor Andrea Bocelli. Liza Minnelli was also scheduled to perform live, but ended up singing via Italian television after she fractured her right knee in a fall.

Australian rock band INXS has also been in the news for their daring work. On Sunday, they became the first international act to play in Singapore since the outbreak of SARS. "It (SARS) was a concern for us at first, but we did our research," said band member Kirk Pengilly. "Hopefully, just by being here, it will help countries that are suffering from SARS and terror warnings." Over 25 bands and performers, including Santana, Mariah Carey, Moby, Dionne Warwick and David Gray, have cancelled Singapore legs of their tours after the outbreak of SARS in March but INXS have made a special trip to the country in a show of support. INXS will also appear next month in Bali, Indonesia for the first ever World Peace Music Awards scheduled to take place at the humongous Garuda Wescu Kencana. "Ticket demand for this groundbreaking event has been high, we have had calls from all over the world asking for tickets," concert organizer Matt Taylor said.

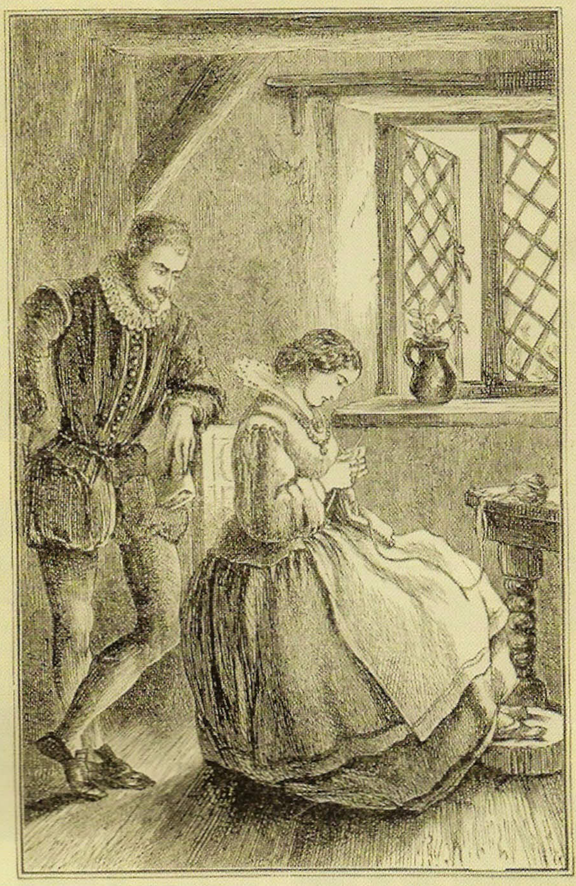
EARLY SILK MANUFACTURE

An early account of the manufacture of silk from the book 'Triumphs of INVENTION and DISCOVERY in Art and Science' published in 1876

JOHN LOMBE

IN the reign of the Emperor Justinian, a couple of Persian monks, on a religious mission to China, brought away with them a quantity of silkworms' eggs concealed in a piece of hollow cane, which they carried to Constantinople. There they hatched the eggs, reared the worms, and spun the silk,—for the first time introducing that manufacture into Europe, and destroying the close monopoly which China had hitherto enjoyed. From Constantinople the knowledge and the practice of the art gradually extended to Greece, thence to Italy, and next to Spain. Each country, as in turn it gained possession of the secret, strove to preserve it with jealous care; but to little purpose. A secret that so many thousands already shared in common, could not long remain so, although its passage to other countries might be for a time deferred. France and England were behind most of the other states of Europe in obtaining a knowledge of the " craft and mystery." The manufacture of silk did not take root in France till the reign of Francis I and was hardly known in England till the persecutions of the Duke of Parma in 1585 drove a great number of the manufacturers of Antwerp to seek refuge in that land. James I. was very anxious to promote the breed of silkworms, and the production of silken fabrics. During his reign a great many mulberry-trees were planted in various parts of the country—among others, that celebrated one in Shakspeare's garden at Stratford-on-Avon and an attempt was made to rear the worm in that country, which, however, the ungenial climate frustrated. Silk-throwsters, dyers, and weavers were brought over from the Continent; and the manufacture made such progress that, by 1629, the silkthrowsters of London were incorporated, and thirty years after employed no fewer than 40,000 hands.

Although the manufacture had now become fairly naturalised in England, it was restricted by our ignorance of the first process to which the silk was subjected. Up till 1718, the whole of the silk used in England, for whatever purpose, was imported " thrown," that is, formed into threads of various kinds and twists. A young Englishman named John Lombe, impressed with the idea that our dependence on other countries for a supply of thrown silk prevented us from reaping the full benefit of the manufacture, and from competing with foreign traders, conceived the project of visiting Italy, and discovering the secret of the operation. He accordingly went over to Piedmont in 1715, but found the difficulties greater than he had anticipated. He applied for admittance at several factories, but was told that an examination of the machinery was strictly prohibited. Not to be balked, he resolved, as a last resort, disguising himself in the dress of a common labourer, he bribed a couple of the workmen connected with one of the factories, and with their connivance obtained access in secret to the works. His visits were few and short; but he made the best use of his time. He carefully examined the various parts of the machinery, ascertained the principle of its operation, and made himself completely master of the whole process of throwing. Each night before he went to bed he noted down everything he had seen, and drew sketches of parts of the machinery. This plot, however, was discovered by the Italians. He and his accomplices had to flee for their lives, and not without great difficulty escaped to a ship which conveyed them to England. Lombe had not forgotten to carry off with him his note-book, sketches, and a chest full of machinery, and on his return home lost no time in practising the art of " throwing" silk. On a swampy island in the river Derwent, at Derby, he built a magnificent mill, yet standing, called the " Old Silk Mill." Its erection occupied four years, and cost £30,000. It was five storeys in height, and an eighth of a mile in length. The grand machine numbered no fewer than 13,384 wheels. It was said that it could produce 318,504,960 yards of organzine silk thread daily; but the estimate is no doubt exaggerated.


Early silk products were manufactured by hand.

The Italians conceived a bitter hatred against Lombe for having broken in upon their monopoly and diminished their trade. In revenge, therefore, according to William Hutton, the historian of Derby, they " determined his destruction, and hoped that of his works would follow." An Italian woman was despatched to corrupt her two countrymen who assisted Lombe in the management of the works. She obtained employment in the factory, and won over one of the Italians. They prepared a slow poison, and administered it in small doses to Lombe, who, after lingering three or four years in agony, died at the early age of twentynine. The Italian died; the woman was seized and subjected to a close examination, but no definite proof could be elicited that Lombe had been poisoned. Lombe was buried in great state, as a mark of respect on the part of his townsmen.

JOSEPH MARIE JACQUARD

Joseph Marie Jacquard, the inventor of the loom which bears his name, and to whom the extent and prosperity of the silk manufacture of our time is mainly due, was born at Lyons in 1752, of humble parents, both of whom were weavers. His father taught him to ply the shuttle; but for education of any other sort, he was left to his own devices. He managed to pick up some knowledge of reading and writing for himself; but his favourite occupation was the construction of little models of houses, towers, articles of furniture, and so on, which he executed with much taste and accuracy. On being apprenticed to a type-founder, he exhibited his aptitude for mechanical contrivances by inventing a number of improved tools for the use of the workmen. On his father's death he set up as a manufacturer of figured fabrics, but although a skillful workman, he was a bad manager, and the end of the undertaking was, that he had to sell his looms to pay his debts.

The invention of numerous ingenious machines for weaving, type-founding etc, proved the activity of his genius, but produced not a farthing for the maintenance of his wife and child. Jacquard applied himself with renewed energy to the completion of the machine of which he had, before the Revolution, conceived the idea; exhibited it at the National Exposition of the Products of Industry in 1801; and obtained a bronze medal and a ten years' patent.

During the peace of Amiens, Jacquard happened to take up a newspaper and his eye fell on a translated extract from an English journal, stating that a prize was offered by a society in London for the construction of a machine for weaving nets. As a mere amusement he turned his thoughts to the subject, contrived a number of models, and at last solved the problem. He made a machine and wove a little net with it. One day he met a friend who had read the paragraph from the English paper. Jacquard drew the net from his pocket saying, " There is a net I've made." After that he took no more thought about the matter, and had quite forgotten it, when he was startled by a summon' to appear at the Prefectal Palace. The prefect received him very kindly, and expressed his astonishment that his mechanical genius should so long have remained in obscurity. " Well, then, you're the right man, after all," said the prefect. " I have orders from the emperor to send the machine to Paris."

" Yes, but you must give me time to make it, replied Jacquard.

In a week or two Jacquard again presented himself at the palace with his machine and was told " I have his majesty orders, M. Jacquard, to send you and your machine to Paris"

"To Paris ! How can that be ? How can I leave my business here ?"

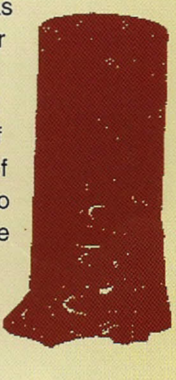
" There is no help for it; and not only must you go to Paris, but you must start at once, without an hour's delay. A carriage is waiting to take you to Paris; and you must not go home. I will send to your house for any things you want, and convey any message to your wife. I will provide you with money for the journey."

There was no help for it, so Jacquard got into the carriage, along with a gendarme who was to take charge of him, and wondered, all the way to Paris, what it all meant. On reaching the capital he was taken before Napoleon, who received him in a very condescending manner. Carnot, who was also present, could not at first comprehend the machine, and turning to the inventor, exclaimed roughly, " What, do you pretend to do what is beyond the power of man? Can you tie a knot in a stretched string ?" Jacquard, not at all disconcerted, explained the construction of his machine so simply and clearly, as to convince the incredulous minister that it accomplished what he had hitherto deemed an impossibility. Jacquard was now employed in the Conservatory of Arts and Manufactures to repair and keep in order the models and machines.

Before Jacquard's death in 1835, his apparatus had not only made its way into every manufactory in France, but was used in England, Switzerland, Germany, Italy, and America. Even the Chinese condescended to avail themselves of this invention of a " barbarian."

Jacquard's apparatus is, strictly speaking, not a loom, but an appendage to one. It is intended to elevate or depress, by bars, the warp threads for the reception of the shuttle, the patterns being regulated by means of bands of punched cards acting on needles with loops and eyes. At first applied to silk weaving only, the use of this machine has since been extended to the bobbin-net, carpets, and other fancy manufactures. By its agency the richest and most complex designs, which could formerly be achieved only by the most skillful labourers, with a painful degree of labour, and at an exorbitant cost, are now produced with facility by the most ordinary workmen, and at the most moderate price.

Of late years the silk manufacture has greatly improved, both in character and extent. The products of British looms exhibited at the Great Exhibition of 1862 vied with those of the Continent. Every year upwards of £2,300,000 worth of silk is brought to England; and the silk manufacture engages some £55,000,000 of capital, and employs eleven to twelve hundred thousand of our population.



New Releases

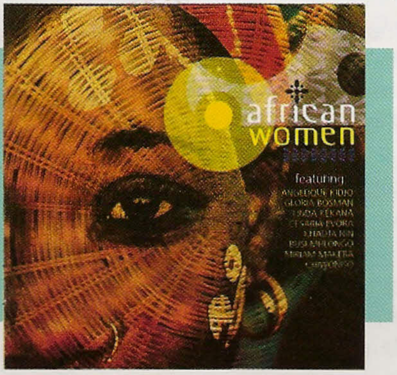
SHEER MUSIC

Fra Fra Sound

The African Journey

FRA FRA SOUND
THE AFRICAN JOURNEY

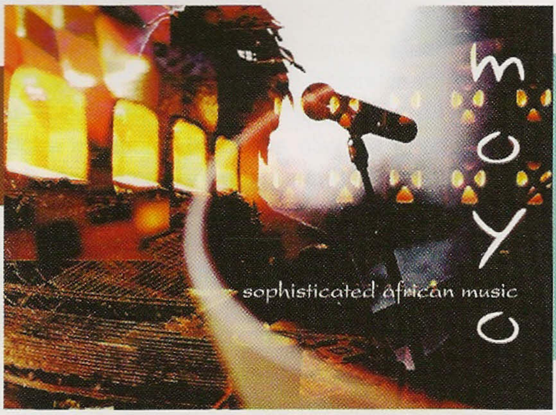
The internationally acclaimed Dutch-based band "Fra Fra Sound" is an infectious seven-piece group whose music melds African, Latin American, soul, blues and funk into their own unique and compelling sound. In an organic, refreshing, and always swinging manner. Fra Fra Sound formed in Amsterdam in 1980. Their music explores Surinamese kaseko, kawina and winti, and the extensive relationship between numerous African styles.The music of Surinam is not well known: most people aren't even sure what continent the country is on, or that it is even a country for that matter! The former Dutch colony (before known as Dutch Guyana) lies on South America's Caribbean coast, but its, musical culture abounds in West Africanisms. The result is an Afro-Latin style of amazing rhythmic complexity. This album is a compilation of some of their best tracks from five different albums.



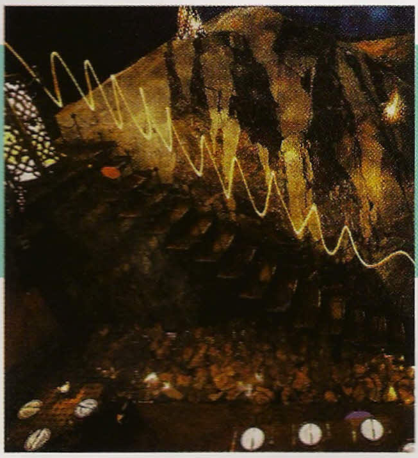
African Women

The cream of the crop of Africa's finest female vocalists. 15 soulful voices from across the continent, showcasing hits, traditional music, ethnic pop and haunting ballads from MALI, ZIMBABWE, BENIN, CAMEROON, BURUNDI, SOUTH AFRICA, CAPE VERDE, IVORY COAST AND ETHIOPIA. A must have for any world music fan, tourist of collector of great music from Africa. The album features ANGELIQUE KIDJO, SALLY NYOLO, CESARIA EVORA, KHADJA NIN, OUMOU SANGARE, CHIWONISO, AND SOUTH AFRICAN STARS MIRIAM MAKEBA, GLORIA BOSMAN, TU NOKWE, BUSI MHLONGO, LINDA KEKANA, SIBONGILE KHUMALO AND SUTHUKAZI AROSI.

Moyo Sophisticated African Music



Compiled to represent a selection of African or "World Music" content – this album carries this Moyo brand, which is now a highly successful African restaurant in Melrose Arch in Johannesburg. The restaurant not only serves various exotic dishes from all over the African continent, but it also has a stage and features regular live performances from a number of SA and African acts, such as Kampi Moto, and Shaluza Max amongst many others. In line with the African image and class of the restaurant, the artists on the album represent a selection of the type of music played at the restaurant, as well as serving to represent quality and variation, with music styles from Benin, Burundi, Namibia, Senegal, Malawi, Mozambique and South africa. Specific tracks, like Juno Reactor's Conga Fury and Sanscapes' Hungry man, fuse tribal dance styles with programmed electronica or bushmen remixes and are played in the restaurant on special occasions backed by a traditionally dressed group of tribal pantsula dancers who entertain patrons to this music at their designated table. Kampi Moto is the resident band.



***Moyo**, a highly successful African restaurant in Melrose Arch in Johannesburg serves various exotic dishes from all over the African continent, and recently launched it's new restaurant at the Market Theatre precinct, in the heart of Newtown, across the Nelson Mandela bridge. A highlight of the evening was a performance in the theatre by Mbongeni Ngema, and students from his school of music in Kwazulu Natal.*

**For more info check out www.sheer.co.za
or www.oneworld.co.za for the best in SA music online**

KAPA DECH

Tsuketani

tsuketani
KAPA DECH

Full and generous voices, fusion beats, fluid melodies and ardent vitality. These are just some of the adjectives used when mentioning the opulent, meticulous arrangements and the skilful architecture of writing that harmoniously blends jazz and Mozambican beats, Jamaican and South-African influences, funk, rock and other musical styles. Then, of course, there are the lyrics, words rich in meaning and sung in the local languages of their country: Mozambique. Young, determined and open-minded, the musicians and singers of Kapa Dêch symbolize the renascent creativity and energy of a land devastated by seventeen years of civil war. They recorded their first album "Katchume" for French world music label, Lusafrica, in 1998, and during extensive touring they made the acquaintance of Ray Phiri, the legendary South-African guitarist and songwriter (former leader of the band Stimela, who appeared on Paul Simon's "Graceland" album and tour). The guitarist worked with Kapa Dêch on a track from this, their second album. Backed by a solid foundation of beats rooted in tradition, their music stirs consciences as they speak of war, education, identity and poverty, confronting these issues head on, and particularly deplore the sleaze that plagues their country.

VOLARE
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NDOLA'S PREMIER
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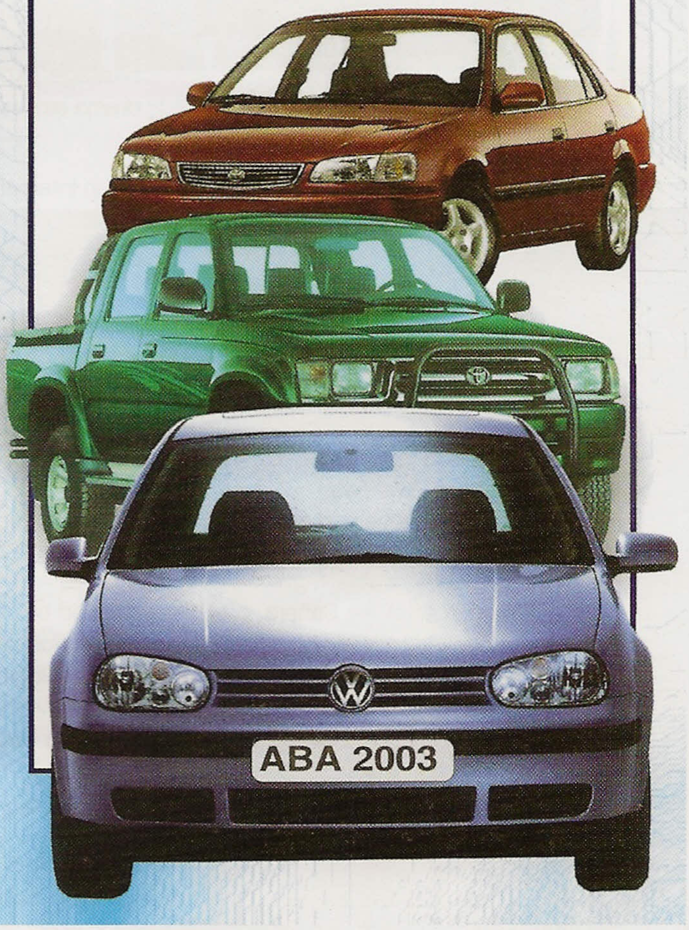

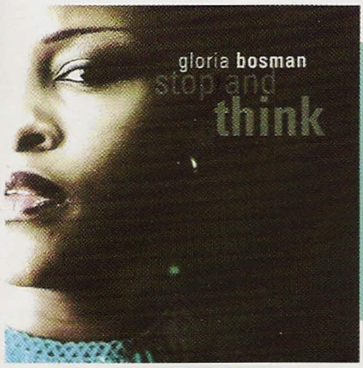

GLORIA BOSMAN

Stop & Think

Born in Mofolo, but was raised in Pimville, Soweto, Gloria Bosman is no stranger to the stage. She began singing in her youth in the church choir, and progressed to a South African Music Award for "Best Newcomer" for her debut album "Tranquility" in the late '90's. She also received 2 nominations in 2001 at the prestigious Kora Awards for Best Southern African Artist and Most Promising Female Artist, as well as another SAMA nomination for "Best Jazz Vocal Album" for her second album "The Many Faces of Gloria Bosman". Gloria's latest album "Stop and Think" will remind many fans of her first appearances when she built up a reputation for singing the standards better than they were originally performed. This album flows between her beautiful renditions of Smoke Gets in Your Eyes, Fever, Summertime, Time After Time, Lizzie and Ntjilo Ntjilo; and original works that highlight her ability as a songwriter especially notable on, "There Will Come a Time". The third album from Gloria Bosman is a must for all fans and music lovers.

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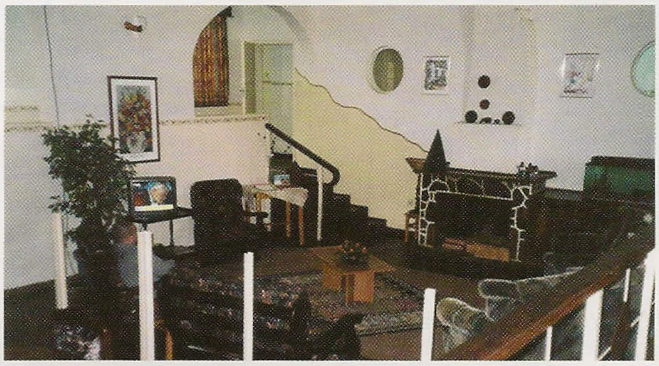

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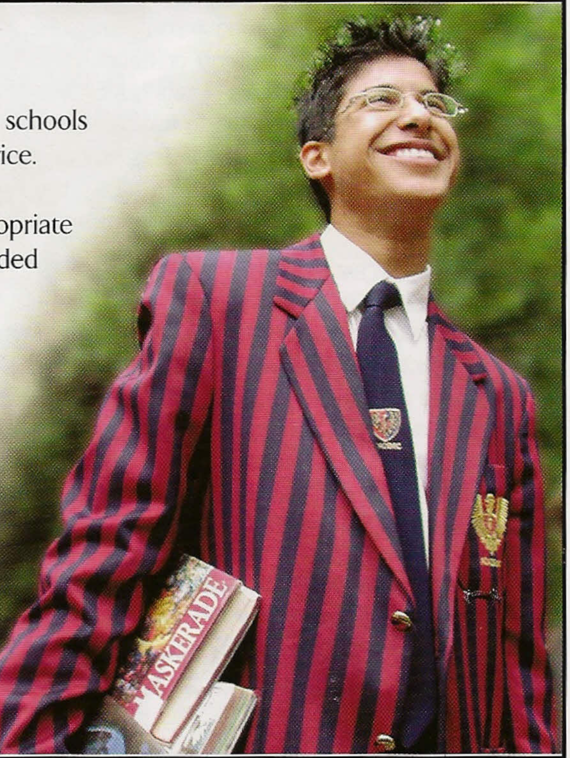

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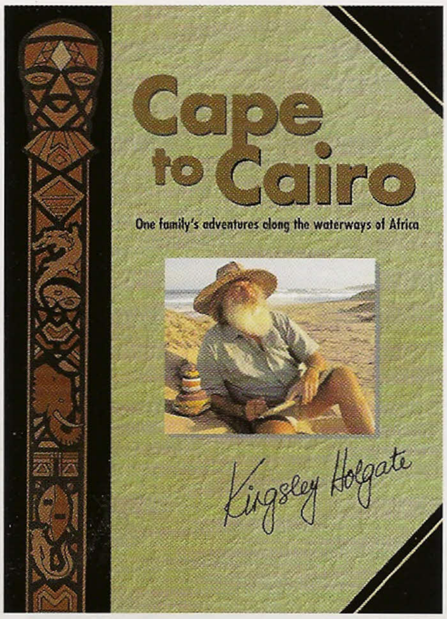


CAPE TO CAIRO

One family's adventure along the waterways of Africa

By Kingsley Holgate

THE BOOK

From the storm-tossed seas of Cape Point to the legendary Nile River, the timeless waterways of Africa have provided many an adventurer with a challenge. However, few have chosen to meet this challenge head-on, and only one has had the daring to attempt to cross the length of the African continent along its watery veins. Cape to Cairo chronicles the epic journey of Kingsley Holgate, his wife and son, and a band of pilgrims across the continent as they venture along South Africa's Wild Coast, up the magnificent Okavango Delta, along the length of the great Zambezi River and across some of Africa's greatest lakes, including Victoria, Tanganyika and Turkana. The romantic in Kingsley leads him, up the east coast in the wake of Arab dhows, while his sense of history makes it imperative that he seeks out the source of the mighty Nile. The journal of the adventure is a rich weave of daily challenges, historical titbits and a record of the diverse culture and natural wonders that this group of intrepid travellers encounters.

THE AUTHOR

Kingsley Holgate's name is synonymous with adventure, not only in Africa, but, thanks to his National Geographic documentaries, also worldwide. Inspired by the African explorers of old – the likes of Livingston and Speke – Kingsley and his family have undertaken a number of epic trips across the African continent in the past decade. While travelling, the self-described 'romantic adventurer' and his team make their own documentaries, recording the traditional cultures and the variety of fauna and flora en route. Despite his love of travel and adventure, Kingsley's roots are planted firmly in Zululand. He lives with his wife Gill at Nkwazi

A LAYMAN'S GUIDE TO MALARIA

By Martine Maurel

Updated by Stephen Toovey and Andrew Jamieson

THE BOOK

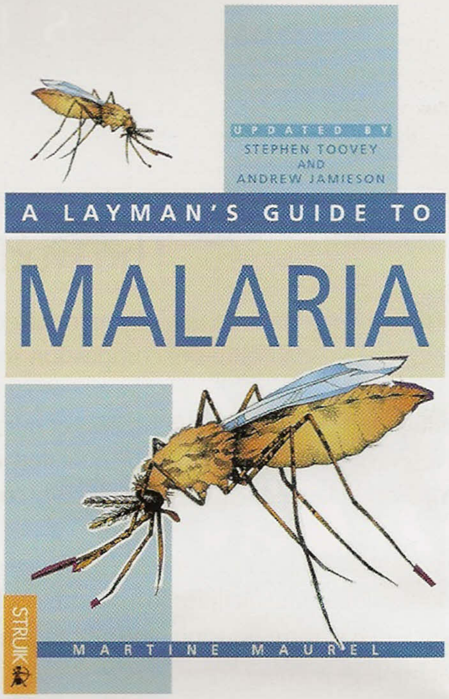
Malaria kills one person every minute. Each year, up to 2.7 million people die from malaria. The disease threatens 2.5 million people, almost half the world's population – a fact highlighted by the recent deaths from malaria of a number of high-profiled people living in southern Africa.

Essential for anyone living or travelling in Africa, tropical Asia and America, A Layman's guide to Malaria sets out clearly and simply the dangers of Malaria, the precautions you can take to avoid contracting the disease and what to do if you suspect you have malaria. This edition has been updated to reflect current thinking on the subject, as well as the relevant modern prophylactic and treatment options. Chapters on malaria in children and during pregnancy are included.

THE AUTHORS

Martine Maurel, a writer who now lives in the United Kingdom, researched the subject of malaria while living in central Africa when her son suffered from five bouts of the disease before he was two years of age. She had consulted widely with authorities on malaria throughout the world.

Stephen Toovey and Andrew Jamieson are physicians who have spent years researching the subject. They both live and practice medicine in Africa and have American postgraduate qualifications in tropical and travel medicine.



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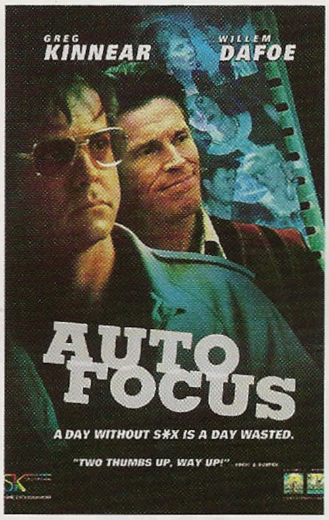
NEW VIDEO & DVD RELEASES

AUTO FOCUS

Academy Award® nominees Greg Kinnear (As Good as it Gets) and Willem Dafoe (Shadow of the Vampire, Spider-Man) star in a provocative drama about the colorful and mysterious death of legendary television actor Bob Crane.

Bob Crane (Greg Kinnear) became well known as the star of the hit comedy series "Hogan's Heroes". With an abundance of fame, wealth and success. Crane dove headfirst into the darker, destructive side of the celebrity lifestyle. He eventually teamed up with a video technician (Dafoe) who helped him to systematically document his copious sexploits with beautiful young women. But when the fast living and hard loving got out of control, the end result was a brutal murder that remains one of the most scandalous unsolved mysteries in Hollywood history.


GREG KINNEAR
WILLEM DAFOE
AUTO FOCUS
A DAY WITHOUT S✱X IS A DAY WASTED.
"TWO THUMBS UP, WAY UP!"

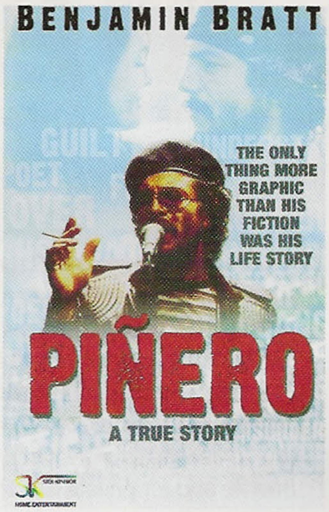
Frida
Prepare to be seduced

PINERO

A True Story

Benjamin Bratt stars in the true story of the turbulent and creative life of poet-playwrite-actor Miguel Pinero. The Latino icon who after doing time in hard-core Sing Sing for drug dealing and petty thefts, turned his prison experiences into the 1974 Tony-Award winning play "Short Eyes".

This volatile urban poet's work is recognised as a precursor to rap and hip-hop, and writer of hit TV shows. The resulting notoriety and fame was too much for this boy-genius and he retreated to the darker corners of New York City, where his life was cut short at the age of 40.


BENJAMIN BRATT
THE ONLY THING MORE GRAPHIC THAN HIS FICTION WAS HIS LIFE STORY
PIÑERO
A TRUE STORY

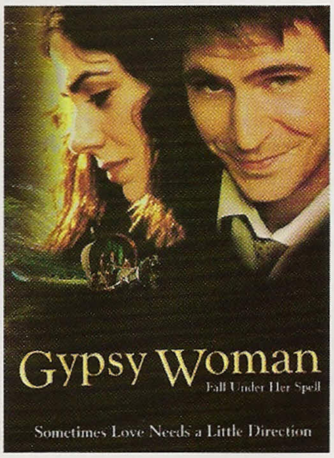
CRUZ
ABRIL
A FILM BY AGUSTIN DIAZ YANES
NO NEWS FROM GOD
Battle of the Heavens

THE RING

The Ring is a cinematic thrill ride that will keep you on the edge of your seat from the stunning opening to the astounding conclusion!

It begins as just another urban legend – the whispered tale of a nightmarish videotape that causes anyone who watches it to die seven days later. But when four teenagers all meet with mysterious deaths exactly one week after watching just such a tape, investigative reporter Rachel Keller (Naomi Watts) tracks down the video. and watches it. Now, the legend is coming true, the clock is ticking and Rachel has just seven days to unravel the mystery of The Ring.

BEFORE YOU DIE, YOU SEE
THE RING
The countdown to your worst nightmare has begun.


Gypsy Woman
Fall Under Her Spell
Sometimes Love Needs a Little Direction

FRIDA

"Frida" chronicles the life of Frida Kahlo (Salma Hayek) shared unflinchingly and openly with Diego Rivera (Alfred Molina), as the young couple took the art world by storm. From her complex and enduring relationship with her mentor and husband to her illicit and controversial affair with Leon Trotsky, to her provocative and romantic entanglements with women, Frida Kahlo lived a bold and uncompromising life as a political, artistic and sexual revolutionary.

NO GOOD NEWS FROM GOD

Two angels, one from heaven, Lola (Abril) and the other from hell, Carmen (Cruz), come to earth vying for the soul of a boxer with a life-threatening injury. While Lola tries to show him the benefits of heaven, Carmen temps him with seductive visions of hell, which may not be so bad after all.

GYPSY WOMAN

They live on different worlds. He's a widowed lawyer for a high-powered London developer. She's a simple gypsy woman whose husband died in an accident at one of his company's sites. They both tried marrying the right person from the right world and it didn't work out. The odds may be against them falling in love, but at this point, they've got nothing to lose, except each other. Starring Jack Davenport and Neve McIntosh.

Much More Than a Naval Base
SURPRISING MALTA

by Dick Jones

Measuring a mere 27 kilometres by 15 kilometres, Malta packs a surprising selection of tourist attractions into its compact area.

As the Air Malta Boeing 737 banks for the approach to Luqa Airport, passengers spot the beige limestone buildings and fortifications, and the two smaller islands of Gozo (65 square km) and Comino (2.5 square km). Together with Malta (390 square km), they make up the Maltese Islands.

The 380 000 ebullient and warm-hearted islanders can trace their origins to 4000 BC. They owe their faith to the Apostle Paul, who was shipwrecked on the island in AD 60. They owe their language, il Malti, to the Arabs who ruled them for 220 years. Their culture was largely influenced by the Knights of St.John, who stayed for 268 years. And they owe their deep sense of democracy to 164 years of British rule. Since 1974, Malta has been an independent republic within the British Commonwealth.

Lying almost in the middle of the Mediterranean - 93 km south of Sicily and 352 km north of Libya – Malta's geographical position determined the course of its history.

Visitors are amazed to learn that the temples of Tarxien, Ggantija, Mnajdra and Hagar Qim date back to a flourishing early Bronze Age civilization of 3500 BC. The standing stones of the temples, whose meaning and symbolism are lost in the mists of antiquity, pre-date Stonehenge. Tarxien, not far from Valletta, is a vast pre-historic complex excavated on three levels. The topmost level was probably a burial place, while the lower levels were used for the safe-keeping of precious metals and for priests practising mysterious rites.

After the Bronze Age, little is known of Malta's history until the 4th Century BC when the Greeks were supreme in the eastern part of the Mediterranean and Carthage ruled the west. In the middle stood Malta.

Malta's Grand Harbour became a naval base for the Carthaginians, but when Carthage lost the Third Punic War, the island was given to the Romans, who generally ignored it.

According to legend, St. Paul was on board a ship was which was wrecked on the rocks of Malta's north-western coast in AD60. He was being taken to Rome for trial but survived the shipwreck to lay the foundations of Christianity. Publius, the island's Roman governor, was an early convert, and by the 3rd Century the majority of the islanders were Christians. Today, 98% of the population are Roman Catholic.

An aerial view of Malta's former capital, the walled city of Mdina.

Famous as a World War 2 strategic naval base which suffered some heavy Axis bombing, the island of Malta has survived as a peacetime treasure trove of arts, history and stark beauty

Count Roger the Norman, whose stronghold was on Sicily, conquered Malta in 1091 and for several hundred years the Maltese were governed by whoever ruled Sicily. In the 1400s Malta became part of the domain of Ferdinand and Isabella of Castile, the Catholic monarchs, but it was not confirmed as a Christian country until 1565 when the Arabs were vanquished by the Knights of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, probably the island's most famous residents.

Founded in 1085, the Order's original purpose was to care for pilgrims who fell ill on visits to the Holy Land, but after the leader of the first Crusade, Godfrey de Bouillon, seized Jerusalem in 1099, their role began to change. When the Order was placed under Papal protection in 1113, the Knights had become fighters as well as Hospitallers.

Islam re-took Jerusalem in 1187 and the Order's headquarters moved successively to Acre, then Cyprus and then Rhodes. For more than 200 years from 1310, the Knights of St. John fought and defeated the Turks in the eastern Mediterranean, until Sultan Suleiman took Rhodes in 1522. He allowed the Knights to leave the island with their honour intact and, seven years later, Charles V, grandson of Ferdinand and Isabella, offered them Malta as a new base.

As usual, the Maltese people had no say about their island being used by outsiders, but the Knights were welcomed in 1530 when they defended the populace against Barbary Coast corsairs who were regularly raiding and looting the islands, forcing many Maltese into slavery.

THE GREAT SIEGE

Malta faced its first big challenge in 1565 when 180 ships carrying 30 000 men sailed from Constantinople to take the Mediterranean in the name of Allah. The siege began on May 18 with an attack on Fort St. Elmo. The Knights defended desperately, despite being the target of 7 000 rounds of ammunition every day, but on June 23 the Turks triumphantly raised their flag over the fort. Fighting continued until August when reinforcements arrived from Sicily - and the tables were turned on the invaders. On September 8 the Great Siege was over and the Knights' cross flew once again over the bastions of St.Elmo. But the toll had been high – 220 Knights and 9 000 soldiers slain, hundreds wounded and the island's fortifications shattered. Knights Grand Master Jean Parisot de la Valette, leader of the defenders and the saviour of Christendom, decided that a new capital was needed and

The Church of Our Lady of Pompeii and the brightly-painted fishing boats of Marsaxlokk harbour.

chose Mount Sceberras, behind Fort St. Elmo, as the site. Work began on the new city in 1568 under the Maltese architect and engineer Gerolamo Cassar, and it is the result of his work which we see today. In various parts of the new capital, named Valletta after the hero of the siege, eight villas (termed auberges or langues) were built to house the national groupings of Knights according to their languages – Germany, Italy, Castile, Aragon, Provence, Auvergne, France and England.

The French Revolution of 1789 signalled the beginning of the end for the Knights of St. John. The French Knights left to fight for Louis XVI, and when the King was defeated the Knights were deprived of their nationality, and the Order's estates and revenues in France were confiscated. It was a huge financial blow to the Order, so when Russia's Tsar Paul I offered to establish an Orthodox Langue and become Protector of the Order on Malta, Knights Grand Master Ferdinand de Hompesch accepted. This act so angered Napoleon, who had just conquered Italy, that he ordered his 300-strong fleet to anchor outside Malta's Grand Harbour in June 1798 and shell Valletta for two days. The French forced a landing and gave the Knights four days to leave, thus ending their 268-year presence on the island. The ruthless French garrison guarding the walled city of Mdina provoked the Maltese into massacring them and forced the French commander to retreat to Valletta. A British and Portuguese squadron posted at the entrance to the Grand Harbour prevented Napoleon from rescuing the garrison, and the French force capitulated in 1800.

BRITISH CROWN COLONY

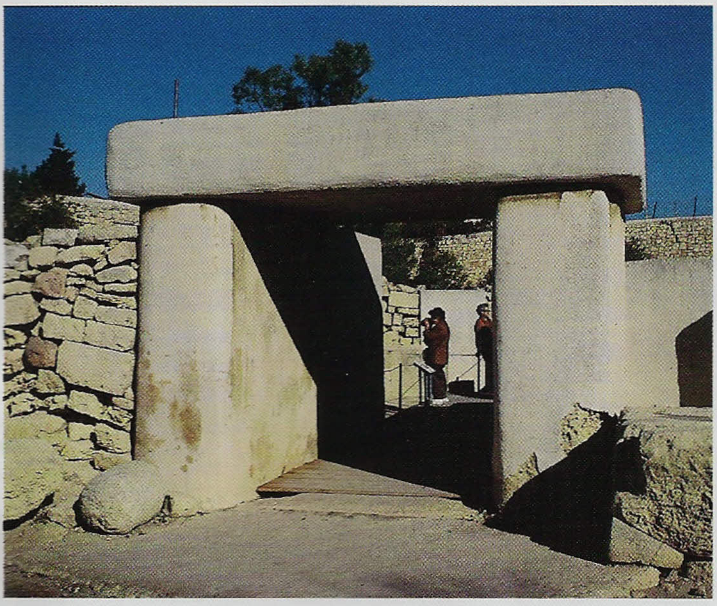
In 1814 Russia, no longer an ally of France, renounced any intention of helping the Knights return, and the Maltese Islands were formally made a British Crown Colony.

The Maltese adopted the English language and laws and became an important stop on the British trade route to India.

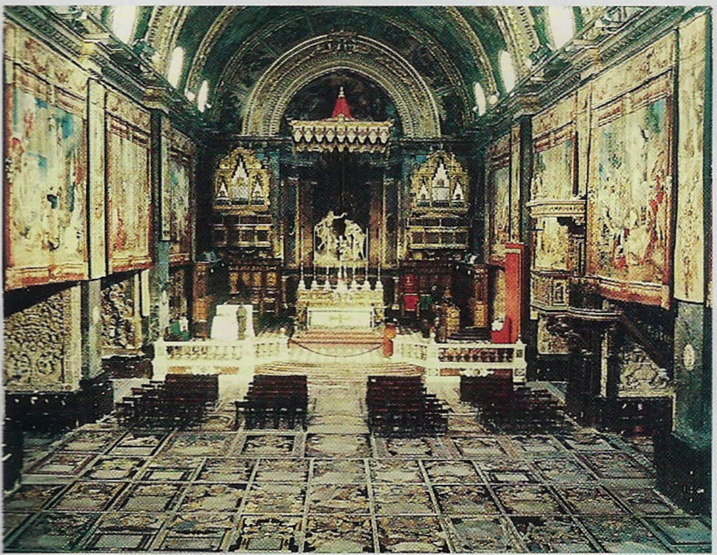
During the First and Second World Wars, Malta was a strategic base for the warships of Britain's Royal Navy. Between 1940 and 1942, the island faced its second great siege when it was pounded by the Italian and German air forces. Buildings were flattened, 40 000 homes destroyed and the Maltese Islands were completely blockaded. Twice as many bombs fell on Malta as fell on London in a whole year at the height of the Luftwaffe's blitz on England, the docks being subjected to 69 consecutive days of intense bombing raids.

In April 1942, King George VI awarded the Maltese Islands the George Cross "to honour a brave people." But it was a close call. When the blockade was breached in August 1942 after a huge convoy guarded by warships reached Valletta, the Maltese had only three months' supply of food left. In January 1943 the Allies took Tripoli and, five months later, the invasion of Sicily was launched from Malta.

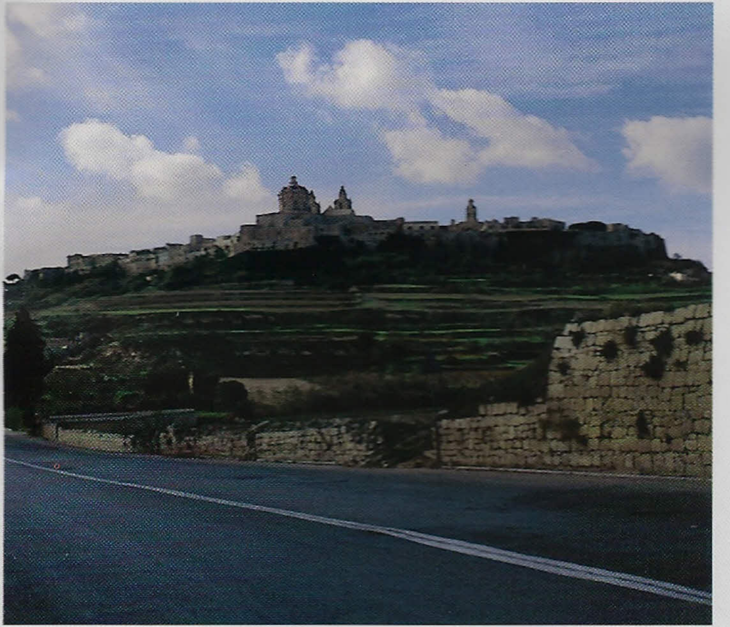
After the war, the Maltese opted to go it alone. Independence within the Commonwealth was granted in 1964 and Malta became a republic in 1974. The last British base on the island closed in 1979. Today, the revitalised dockyards have an international reputation and tourism is one of the main sources of foreign currency. Tourism accounts for more than one-fifth of the gross national product, with the dockyards, agriculture and manufacturing also making big contributions.



Entrance to the Tarxien Temple, which pre-dates the Egyptian pyramids.



The floor of Valletta's St. John's Cathedral is paved with 400 Knights' sepulchres.



The walled city of Mdina is situated on Malta's highest point.

Malta has learnt to use the best of its rich heritage to transform a fortress island into a surprising tourist mecca. Like two other island states which are big on tourism, Singapore and Mauritius, Malta has established its own airline to attract more than 2 million visitors a year. The distinctive St. John's cross in white on a red background features on the tails of Air Malta's modern fleet, which includes two Airbus 320-200s, seven Boeing 737-300s and two Boeing 737-200As. The airline links the island to the main cities of the European Union, which accepted the Maltese Republic as its newest member in April 2003.

BEWILDERING AGENDA

It seems that every tourist attraction in Malta has produced its own colourful brochure, so sightseers face a bewildering agenda. It is best to begin one's exploration of the main island in the capital, Valletta, which covers about 2 square kilometres. The pedestrian mall of Republic Street bisects the Knights' city, stretching up a gentle 2 km slope from the bus terminus at the city gate to the heights of Fort St.Elmo.

A tourist information office is conveniently sited in the arcade to the right of the entrance portal. The nearby National Museum of Fine Arts houses a magnificent collection of paintings of Malta throughout the last 500 years. On a stroll up Republic Street, the Auberge of Provence seen on the left is now home to the Museum of Archaeology. The building is the only one of the eight original langues open to the public. It was begun in 1571 and designed by Valletta's architect, Gerolamo Cassar.

Another of Cassar's architectural creations is the magnificent St. John's Co-Cathedral in the next block on the right. Consecrated on 20 February 1578, it was the conventual church of the Order until 1798. It was given the title of Co-Cathedral by Pope Pius VII in 1816 as a means of ending the rivalry between Mdina and Valletta, which began with the Knights' arrival in 1530. What makes the church so spectacular, in addition to its richly-decorated ceiling and walls, are the 400 sepulchre slabs in the floor which feature the colourful crests of the Knights of St. John. The high altar, finished in 1686, is crafted from lapis lazuli and in its centre is a bronze bas relief of the "Last Supper." Seven chapels are dedicated to the patron saint of each Langue and contain the tombs of the Grand Masters. The missing member is England, because the English knights were withdrawn from the Order as a result of Henry VIII's dispute with Rome,

One shudders to think what the Valletta of today would be like without this priceless gem, for it escaped the fate of the Royal Opera House, bombed into an open ruin just two streets away.

Another historic gem to survive in the mall is the nearby Palace of the Knights. Neptune's Court with its sub-tropical plants is reached through the Palace's Prince of Wales entrance. The public entrance to the State Apartments is up a small flight of steps in a corner of the courtyard. The Knights used the Tapestry Room as their council chamber, and the Maltese parliament met here between 1921 and 1976. Tapestries in the first chamber on the left were presented to the Order by Grand Master Perellos in the early 1700s, and the friezes above them depict the galleys of the Order in battle against the Turkish vessels. Magnificent frescoes picturing the Great Siege can be seen in the Throne Room. The Armoury on the ground floor contains one of the finest collections of weaponry in the world, including a gold Damascus suit of armour fashioned for Grand Master Aloph de Wignacourt.

A block down Old Theatre Street is the still-operational Manoel Theatre, opened in 1732 and financed by Grand Master Manoel de Vilhena "for the honest recreation of the people." Fort St. Elmo at the top end of the mall houses the War Museum, where the prize exhibit is the island's George Cross. Other exhibits detail Malta's role in the war, including photos of the bombing destruction.

Across the road from the fort is the Holy Infirmary of the Knights, begun in 1574, and now the Mediterranean Conference Centre accommodating 1 400 delegates. Nearby, the Malta Experience 40-minute multi-media show tells the island's fascinating story in a choice of several languages.

RABAT AND MDINA

Not to be missed is Mdina, described as one of the world's best-preserved walled medieval cities. It is about 11km inland to the west of Valletta on a 154-metre-high hill. It has its origins in the Bronze Age and, during the Roman era, Mdina and its suburb of Rabat became the capital. The Aghlabid Arabs built the defensive moat in the late 800s to separate the city into two parts, naming the old part il-Medina (the fortified). The Normans retained Mdina as their capital, but with the arrival of the Knights in 1530 the town of Vittoriosa became the capital, later to be replaced by Valletta.

During British rule, Mdina was home to Malta's noble families. Today, the homes and churches are still maintained by their owners and sponsoring corporations, so Mdina remains a place of serene repose, living up to its name of the "Silent City." Torches placed next to the front doors of many houses are replicas of medieval street lights, and the pride of the "city" (actually the size of a village) is Mdina Cathedral, built in the shape of a Latin cross. The memorial tablets in the nave resemble those in St. John's, Valletta, and the beautiful ceiling frescoes created in 1794 depict scenes from St. Paul's life.

As they approach the city gate, tourists will see Maltese horse-and-carriage karozzinis lined up on the right, their drivers waiting to be hired. The carriages are an enjoyable way of seeing Mdina, but it is advisable to agree on a price first.

After a leisurely tour through Mdina, a short walk from the city gate takes you to the Roman Villa and Museum, which is full of elaborate mosaics and carvings. St.Paul's Street leads to St. Paul's Church, founded in 1575, which stands on Rabat's Parish Square. The entrance to the Grotto where St.Paul lived for the three months he was on the island is to the right of the main chapter door, and above the main altar is a striking painting of the shipwreck.

Signs point the way to Rabat's three eerie catacombs – St. Paul's, St. Agatha's and St. Cataldus – which are typical of early underground Christian tombs also used as places of worship.

Another fascinating descent into antiquity can be made at the Ghar Dalam Cave (Cave of Darkness) near St. George's Bay. This is where excavators unearthed a treasure trove of fossilised animals including miniature rhinos and elephants (on display in the adjacent museum) which proved that Malta was once part of North Africa.

Around the coast there are some delightful fishing villages. Probably the most picturesque is Marsaxlokk, its calm waters a haven for fishermen bringing in their catches aboard brightly-painted boats.

The Ggantija Temple on Gozo island is the world's oldest free-standing structure.

Like other tourist spots in the Mediterranean, the Maltese Islands have the attractions of sea and sunshine. In addition to the simple pleasures of swimming and tanning on the beach, there is windsurfing, scuba-diving in sparkling clear water, and water-skiing.

The topography consists of terraced hills, where agricultural plots are separated by stone walls no more than half-a-metre high, and a rocky coastline. There are very few trees, no rivers and no farm animals to be seen. In fact, although there is an abundance of fish, the islanders have to import their meat. Rabbits are bred commercially and a tasty rabbit dish is usually the main course of a Maltese Sunday dinner.

Sandy beaches are generally small and hard to find, but Ramla Beach on Gozo is the largest and most popular.

Gozo, an agricultural island of farmers and fisherman, is linked to Malta by daily ferry and helicopter services. The ferry carries tour coaches and other vehicles in addition to passengers. Its Ggantija prehistoric temples, built a thousand years before Egypt's pyramids of Giza, are recognised by the Guinness Book of Records as the oldest free-standing structures in the world.

Souvenir-hunters should look for Malta's traditional crafts of lace making and unique blown-glass products. Other local crafts include items made from local limestone, ceramics, silver filigree jewellery, weaving and knitting products.

Brass door knockers in the shape of animals and mythical creatures make beautiful (but heavy) curios, so it's not surprising that the ubiquitous models of Knights, which are decidedly lighter in weight, are more popular.

In the homes of millions of visitors from all over the world, these distinctive curios are reminders of a resilient people who have successfully transformed their islands into a startling tourist venue.

(The Malta Tourism Authority website address is www.visitmalta.com)

A NEW STRATEGIC ALLIANCE FORMED

The latest report from the industrial sector is that Goodyear SA and SKF SA have joined in a strategic alliance whereby SKF has been appointed as the sole distributors of Goodyear Power Transmission Products.

According to David da Silva Director of Goodyear SA responsible for Engineered Products - appointing SKF SA as the sole distributor of Goodyear power transmission products has brought Goodyear SA in line with world trends.

“Internationally Goodyear subscribes to the belief that customers want more than just a product, they expect a total solution to problems which cause unnecessary downtime ” with SKF we'll be able to extend that thinking to the South African market.”

“End - User customers are experiencing a dynamic changing marketplace” says Grant Baxter Commercial Manager of SKF SA. “ In a result driven world, they too are under pressure for higher productivity and increased efficiency. SKF's goal is to deliver more and meet customer needs through the implementation of well-defined systematic process backed by superior products and services. We believe that together with Goodyear, we will be able to achieve these goals”.

For more information contact :-
Renier van Greunen
Tel : 011 821 3500
Cell : 083 443 4201
Email : renier.van.greunen@skf.com

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THEO'S

CAMPS BAY
Cape Town

Member of the prestigious 'Les Chaine des Rotisseurs', Kevin Moss, has taken over the ownership of Theo's Grill, Butcher & Seafood restaurant in Camps Bay. Moss & his U.S partner have injected a staggering R500, 000 into the refurbishment of the restaurant, which includes a new deck to add to the already popular, Theo's experience.

"Theo's Restaurant has established a solid reputation over the years for great service and fine traditional cuisine, hence my initial visit to the restaurant in 2002 whilst on holiday. As they say, "I liked it so much, I bought it," said Moss

In his 15-year Hotel Management career that has taken him across Africa, Europe & the Far East working for some of the worlds leading international Hotel groups such as the Sheraton & Kempinski Groups, he has an impressive list of credits. These include studying at the world-renowned Lausanne Hotel School, Switzerland, hosting state banquets for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the Thai Royal Family and 65 other Heads of State.

KEVIN MOSS owner - far right

His first priority is to welcome the local market that often gets neglected during the peak seasons but are welcomed back in the winter months. His plans are right on track by providing a first class service, entertainment & educational give-away's for children, to accompany the children's menu, and the possibility of providing complimentary under-cover parking to guests in the near future.

Another target market that is generally forgotten about is the senior citizens within the community. Moss will be implementing affordable incentives to appeal to this market in due course. The restaurant is also due to implement a community service investment project, which he believes is urgently required within the community.

Theo's was voted the best seafood restaurant in the Western Cape in 2002 by Diners Club as well as the prestigious 'Fleur du Cap Best Seafood Restaurant' (Cape Gourmet Festival 2002)

Theo's, Camps Bay offers flexibility for those with special dietary requirements and assures each and every diner a wholesome traditional gourmet experience.

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DESTINATION INFORMATION

DESTINATION INFORMATION

BENIN

INTERAIR OFFICES
BENIN
C/262, A'Rue Augustin
Nicoue, Cotonou
Tel: (+229) 314637
Fax: (+229) 314667

DIALLING CODE: (+229) **TIME:** UT +1
CAPITAL: PORTO NOVO
CURRENCY: FRANC CFA WEST (XOF)
VOLTAGE: 220 Volts AC, 50HZ
CLIMATE: Southern region - Rainy season Apr. - Jul, Oct-Nov.
DEPARTURE FEES: approx XOF 12,500 dependant on destination.
PUBLIC HOLIDAYS: 01 Jan, 01 May, 1,15 Aug, 25 Dec
HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:
Yellow fever, high risk malaria, polio/meningitis/tetanus/hepatitis /A & B recommended.
VISA & ENTRY ADVICE
Embassy of Benin
900 Park Street, Arcadia, Pretoria
Tel: (012) 342 6978
Fax: (012) 342 1823

BURKINA FASO

INTERAIR OFFICE
AAT Voyages
Secteur 04, Koulouba,
Ave de la Resistance Du 17 Mai
09 B.P.323 Ouagadougou 09
Tel: (266) 33 1444/5
Fax: (226) 33 1446

DIALLING CODE: (+226)
TIME: GMT
CAPITAL: OUAGADOUGOU
CURRENCY: CFA (West African Franc).
VOLTAGE: 220 volts AC, 50Hz, standard 2-pin plugs.
CLIMATE: Tropical, rainfall in the southwest
HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:
Yellow Fever, High Risk Malaria, Meningitis, Polio, Tetanus, Hepatitis A & B, Typhiod
VISA/ENTRY ADVICE:
Contact French Consulate Johannesburg (011) 788 5600 after 13hoo

CAMEROON

INTERAIR OFFICES
Saga Voyages
760, Rue Christian Kuoh Toble
Bonanjo, Douala
Tel: (+237) 3 423317
Fax: (+237) 3 420137
E-mail:
saga.voyages@camnet.cm

DIALLING CODE: (+237)
TIME: UT+1
CAPITAL: YAOUNDE (Constitutional), DOUALA (Economic)
CURRENCY: CFA franc. Central African Franc.
VOLTAGE: 110/220 volts AC, 50Hz, round 2-pin plugs.
CLIMATE: Mainly tropical, hot and humid
AIRPORT DEPARTURE FEE: Approx CFA10,000 dependent on destination.
PUBLIC HOLIDAYS: 1 Jan; 11 Feb; Easter; 1,20 May; 01 June; 15 Aug; 25 Dec. End of Ramadan - dates vary.
HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:
Yellow Fever endemic / infected : Yes. Yellow Fever vaccination compulsory for all travellers from YF endemic / infected countries. *Other Vaccinations* : Compulsory – Nil. Recommended - All childhood vaccinations up to date; Tetanus booster; Hepatitis A. Consider – Meningococcal meningitis, Hepatitis B, Typhoid, Polio if long-term or frequent visitor.
Malaria: Endemic in the whole country. Chloroquine resistant. Use preventive measures and prophylaxis year round.
VISA/ENTRY ADVICE:
Cameroon High Commission,
924 Pretorius Street,
Arcadia, Pretoria.
Tel: (+27) (0) 12 342 2477
Fax: (+27) (0) 12 342 2478

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

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Lubumbashi
Tel: (+ 243) 970 26 828

THE REPUBLIC OF CONGO.

INTERAIR OFFICE
Terminal Building
Aeroport de Maya Maya
Brazzaville
Tel: (+242) 825361/2
Fax: (+242) 825360

INTERAIR OFFICE
SAGA VOYAGES
42 Avenue Charles de Gaulle
Pointe Noire
Tel: (+ 242) 942862, 941019
Fax: (+ 242) 925689

DIALLING CODE: (+242)
TIME: UT +1
CAPITAL: BRAZZAVILLE
CURRENCY: Central African Franc (XAF)
VOLTAGE: 220/230 volts AC, 50HZ
CLIMATE: Rainy season Jan - May, Oct - Dec.
DEPARTURE FEES: approx XAF 15,900 dependant on destination.
PUBLIC HOLIDAYS: 01Jan, 08, 29-31 Mar, 01 May, 10 Jun, 15 Aug, 01 Nov, 25 Dec.
HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:
Yellow fever, high risk malaria, tetanus, hepatitus A & B recommended,
VISA/ENTRY ADVICE;
Embassy of The Republic of Congo
960 Arcadia Street, Arcadia, Pretoria
Tel: (012) 342 5507/8
Fax: (012) 342 5510

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

INTERAIR OFFICE
Viajes Ekuku
Calle Nigeria 64
Apartado 888
Malabo
Tel: (+240) 91499
Fax: (+240) 96111

DIALLING CODE: (+240)
TIME: UT+1
CAPITAL: MALABO
CURRENCY: CFA
VOLTAGE: 220/240 volts AC
CLIMATE: Tropical
AIRPORT DEPARTURE FEE:
PUBLIC HOLIDAYS: 1 Jan; 5 April; Easter; 1,25 May; 5,6 June; 3 Aug; 12 Oct; 8,25 Dec.
HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:
Yellow Fever endemic / infected : Yes. Yellow Fever vaccination compulsory for all travellers from YF endemic / infected countries.
Other Vaccinations : Compulsory – Nil
Recommended - All childhood vaccinations up to date; Tetanus booster; Hepatitis A.
Consider - Hepatitis B, Typhoid, Polio if long-term or frequent visitor.
Malaria: Endemic in the whole country.
Chloroquine resistant.Use preventive measures and prophylaxis year round.

GABON

INTERAIR OFFICES -
Universal Voyages
854 Avenue de la Republique
Libreville.
Tel: (+241) 724191, 726081
Fax: (+241) 724337

DIALLING CODE: (+241)
TIME: UT+1
CAPITAL: LIBREVILLE
CURRENCY: CFA franc
VOLTAGE: 110/220 volts AC, 50Hz.
CLIMATE: Tropical, hot and humid
PUBLIC HOLIDAYS: 1 Jan; Easter Monday; 1,27 May; 15,16,17 Aug; 1 Nov; 25 Dec.
HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:
Yellow Fever endemic / infected : Yes. Yellow Fever vaccination compulsory for all travellers from YF endemic / infected countries.
Other Vaccinations :
Compulsory – Nil.
Recommended - All childhood vaccinations up to date; Tetanus booster; Hepatitis A.
Consider - Hepatitis B, Typhoid, Polio if long-term or frequent visitor.
Malaria: Endemic in the whole country. Chloroquine resistant. Use preventive measures and prophylaxis year round.
VISA/ENTRY ADVICE:
AIRPORT DEPARTURE FEE:
approx
XAF 17,500 dependant on destination
Embassy of Gabon,
921 Schoeman Street, Hatfield, Pretoria
Tel: (+27) (0) 12 342 4376/7
Fax: (+27) (0) 12 346 1974

ISRAEL

GSA AIRLINES
65 Ygal Alon St
Tel-Aviv
Tel: (+ 972) 3 562 9334
Fax: (+ 972) 3 562 9340

MADAGASCAR

INTERAIR OFFICES -
Antananarivo
Galerie Marchande
Madagascar Hilton, Anosy,
Antananarivo 101
Tel : +261 20 2222406,
Fax : +261 20 2262421

DIALLING CODE: (+261 20/ CELL +261 30, 261 32, 261 33)
TIME: UT+3
CAPITAL: ANTANANARIVO
CURRENCY: FRANC (MGF)

Madagascar Franc.
VOLTAGE: 110 or 220 Volts AC, also 380 Volts AC, 50Hz. 2 pin plugs.
CLIMATE: Hot sub tropical weather. Rainy seasons, Nov-Mar. Dry, April-Oct. Monsoon from Dec-Mar in north and east and May-Oct is windy.
AIRPORT DEPARTURE TAX: MGF 84000 plus a Security Tax of MGF 11000 (Approx. Total US Dollars 17.00). Plus US Dollars 31.00. Return tickets and US Dollars 15.50 on one way tickets.

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS: 1 Jan; 29 March;16 April;1,24,25 May; 4, 26 June; 15 Aug; 1 Nov; 25 Dec.
HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:
Yellow Fever endemic / infected : No. Yellow Fever vaccination compulsory for all travellers from YF endemic / infected countries.
Other Vaccinations :
Compulsory – Nil.
Recommended - All childhood vaccinations up to date; Tetanus booster; hepatitis A.
Consider – Hepatitis B if long-term or frequent visitor.
Malaria: Endemic in the whole country. Chloroquine resistant. Use preventive measures and prophylaxis year round.
VISA/ENTRY ADVICE:
Consulate of Madagascar
No 13, 6th Street, Houghton Estate
Johannesburg. 2198,
R. S. A. Docex No. DX506
E-Mail: consul @ infodoor.co.za
Tel: (+27 11) 442 3322
Fax: (+27 11) 442 6660
O/H: Monday - Friday 09h00 - 13h00

MALI

INTERAIR OFFICE
TAM Voyages
Square Patrice Lumumba
B.P. 932 Bamako
Tel: (223) 221 9210/5693
Fax: (223) 221 0547

REUNION c/o Air Austral

INTERAIR OFFICE
4 Rue de Nice
97400 Saint-Denis
Tel: (+262) 262 909081
Fax: (+262) 262 210572

DIALLING CODE: (+262)
TIME: UT+4
CAPITAL: SAINT DENIS
CURRENCY: FRANC (FRF) French Franc.
VOLTAGE: 110/220 Volts.
CLIMATE: Hot, sub-tropical temperature.
HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:
Yellow Fever endemic / infected : No. Yellow Fever vaccination compulsory for all travellers from YF endemic / infected countries.
Other Vaccinations :
Compulsory – Nil.
Recommended - All childhood vaccinations up to date;Tetanus booster,Hepatitis A.
Consider – Hepatitis B, Typhoid, Polio if long-term or frequent visitor.
Malaria: None.
VISA/ENTRY ADVICE:
French Consulate General
35th Floor, Carlton Centre,
Commissioner Street,
Johannesburg
Tel: (+27) (0) 11 331 3478
Fax: (+27) (0) 11 331 3497

SEYCHELLES

INTERAIR OFFICES -
Masons Travel
Michel Building, Revolution Avenue,
Victoria, Mahe.
Tel: (+248) 288909
Fax: (+248) 225273
E-mail: info@masonstravel.com
DIALING CODE: (+248) **TIME:** UT+4
CAPITAL: VICTORIA
CURRENCY: RUPEE (SCR) Seychelles Rupee.
VOLTAGE: 240 Volts Ac, 50Hz 3 pin plugs
CLIMATE: Tropical monsoon rains, Nov-Feb, but hot and humid. May-Sept, cooler weather.
HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:
Yellow Fever endemic / infected : No. Yellow Fever vaccination compulsory for all travellers from YF endemic / infected countries.
Other Vaccinations :
Compulsory – Nil.
Recommended - All childhood vaccinations up to date; Tetanus booster; Hepatitis A.
Consider – Hepatitis B, Typhoid if long-term or frequent visitor.
Malaria: None
AIRPORT DEPARTURE TAX: US Dollars 40.00
PUBLIC HOLIDAYS: 1,2 Jan; 13 April; 1 May; 5, 14,18,29 June; 15 Aug; 1 Nov; 25 Dec.
VISA ENTRY ADVICE:
Consulate of the Seychelles
55 Mandeville Rd., Bryanston,
Johannesburg
Tel: (+27) (0) 11 463 7010,
Fax: (+27) (0)11 463 7014

SOUTH AFRICA

INTERAIR SOUTH AFRICA HEAD OFFICE
Ground Floor,
Finance House,
Ernest Oppenheimer Road,
Bruma Lake Office Park,
2198, Johannesburg. R.S.A
Tel: +27 11 616 0636
Fax: +27 11 616 0930
E-Mail: interair@mweb.co.za
Website: www.interair.co.za
DIALLING CODE: (+27)
TIME: UT+2
CAPITALS: PRETORIA & CAPE TOWN
CURRENCY: RAND (ZAR) South African Rand
VOLTAGE: 220 - 240 Volts
CLIMATE: Ranges from Mediterranean through to sub tropical to dry Highveld and semi desert regions.
AIRPORT DEPARTURE TAX: ZAR216.00 - payable when purchasing air ticket (from 01/04.03 ZAR224.00)
PUBLIC HOLIDAYS: 1 Jan; 21 March; 18, 21, 27 April; 1 May; 16 June; 9, Aug; 24 Sep; 16, 17, 25, 26 Dec.
HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:
Yellow Fever endemic / infected : No. Yellow Fever vaccination compulsory for all travellers from YF endemic / infected countries.
Other Vaccinations :
Compulsory – Nil.
Recommended - All childhood vaccinations up to date; Tetanus booster.
Consider - Hepatitis A if non-immune, long-term or frequent visitor.
Malaria: Seasonal in low-lying areas of Mpumalanga (Including the major Game Parks), Northern KwaZulu-Natal and parts of the Northern Province. Chloroquine resistant. Use preventive measures year round and prophylaxis from October to May.

UGANDA

INTERAIR OFFICES -
Entebbe / Kampala
2nd Floor, Entebbe International Airport
Entebbe
Tel: (+256) 42 322036
Fax: (+256) 42 322034
DIALLING CODE: (+256)
TIME: UT+3
CAPITAL: KAMPALA
CURRENCY: (USH) Uganda Shilling
VOLTAGE: 240v AC, 50HZ.
CLIMATE: Relatively cool climate, with higher areas even cooler. Snow Mount Elgon. March & May. Oct & Nov rainy seasons. Drier in the North.
DEPARTURE TAX: INTERNATIONAL - USD20
PUBLIC HOLIDAYS: 1, 26 Jan; 8 & 28-31 March; 1 May; 3, 9 June; 9 Oct; 25-26 Dec. IDI-EL-FITN and IDI-EL-ADWIHA (dependent on appearance of moon)
HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:
Yellow Fever endemic / infected : Yes. Yellow Fever vaccination compulsory for all travellers from YF endemic / infected countries
Other Vaccinations :
Compulsory – Nil
Recommended - All childhood vaccinations up to date; Tetanus booster; Hepatitis A.
Consider - Hepatitis B, Typhoid, Polio if long-term or frequent visitor.
Malaria: Endemic in the whole country. Chloroquine resistant.Use preventive measures and prophylaxis year round.
VISA/ENTRY ADVICE:
Ugandan High Commission
882, Church Street,
Pretoria R. S. A.
Tel: (+27) (0) 12 342 6031/2/3
Fax:: (+27) (0) 12 342 6206

ZAMBIA

INTERAIR OFFICES -
Ndola
Ground Floor, Africa House
Buteko Avenue, Ndola
Tel : (+260) 2 618083
Fax : (+260) 2 620542
DIALLING CODE: (+260)
TIME: UT+2
CAPITAL: LUSAKA
CURRENCY: (ZMK) Zambian Kwacha
VOLTAGE: 220/240 VOLTS AC, 50Hz.
CLIMATE: The summer (Oct and Nov) is hot and dry (19c - 32c), winter (May to Sept) is cool and dry (10c - 25c), and the rainy season (Dec - April).
CURRENCY: The unit of currency is the Kwacha. Visitors are allowed any sum of foreign exchange as long as it is declared upon arrival. Major International currencies will be accepted by banks and foreign exchange bureaux.
AIRPORT DEPARTURE TAX: International - US$20

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS:
1 Jan; 12 & 28-31 March; 1, 25 May; 7, 8 June; 1st Tue of July; 24 Oct; 25-26 Dec.
CAR RENTAL: Avis and Imperial at Ndola Airport.
HEALTH REQUIREMENTS:
Yellow Fever endemic / infected : No.Yellow Fever vaccination compulsory for all travellers from YF endemic / infected countries
Other Vaccinations :
Compulsory – Nil
Recommended - All childhood vaccinations up to date; Tetanus booster; Hepatitis A.
Consider - Hepatitis B, Typhoid, Polio if long-term or frequent visitor.
Malaria: Endemic in the whole country.
Chloroquine resistant.Use preventive measures and prophylaxis year round.
VISA/ENTRY ADVICE:
Zambian High Commission
1159, Ziervogel Street,
Cnr. Hamilton Street,
Arcadia, Pretoria . R. S. A.
Tel: (+27) (0) 12 326 1847, 326 1859
Fax: (+27) (0) 12 326 0263

TBWA GAVIN REDDY HAWN 302023/A4

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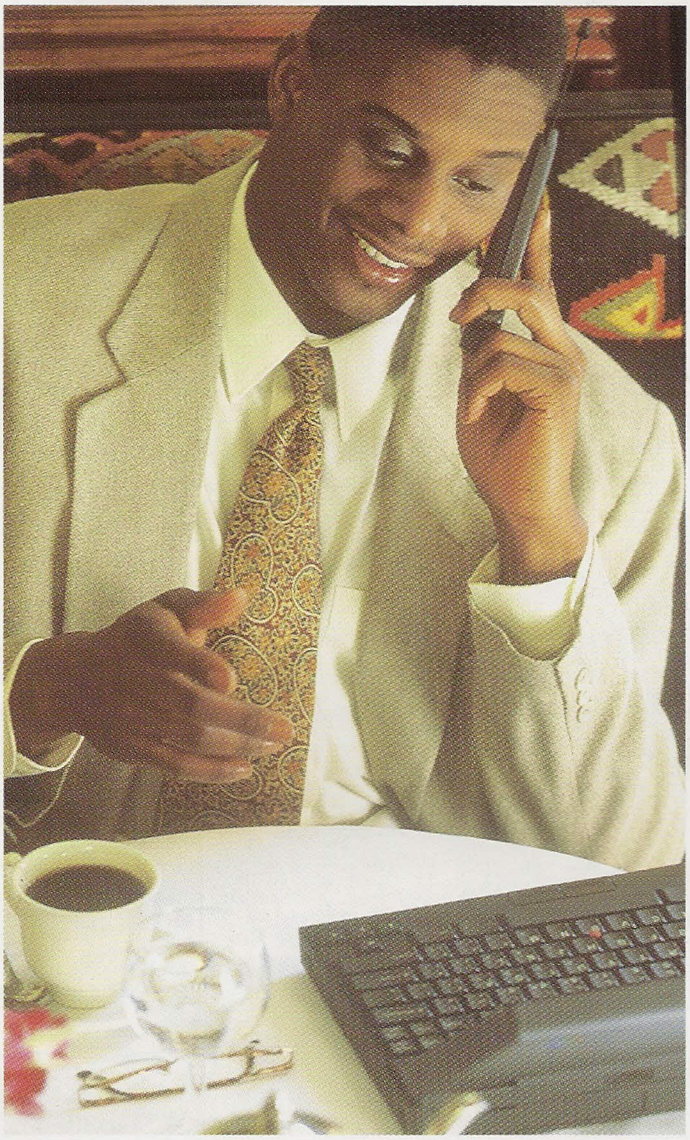

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TAJ
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